クライング フリーマン

CRYING FREEMAN

Kazuo Koike / Ryoichi Ikegami

4

小池一夫・作
池上遼一・画

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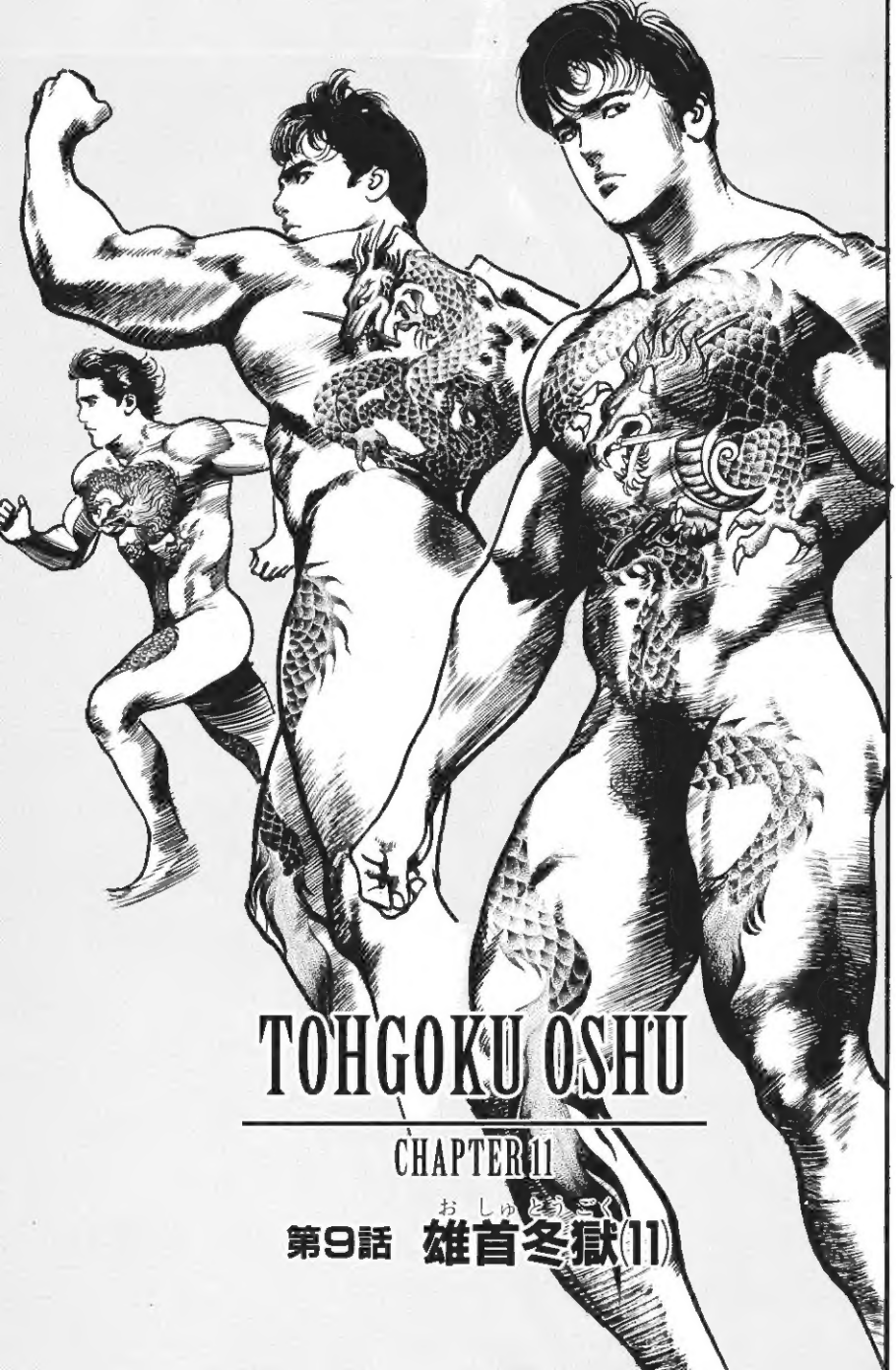
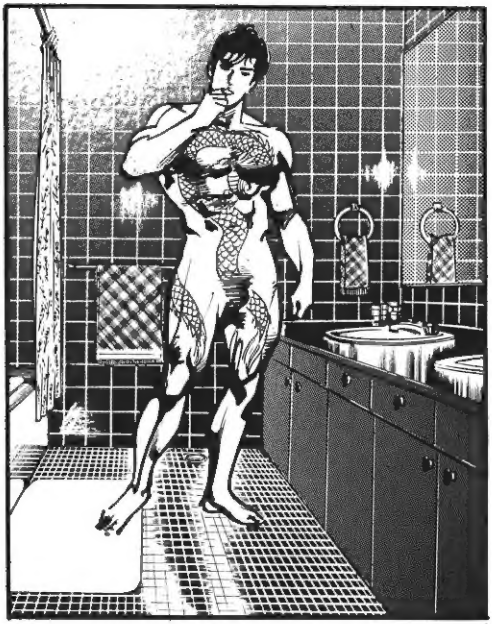


TOHGOKU OSHU

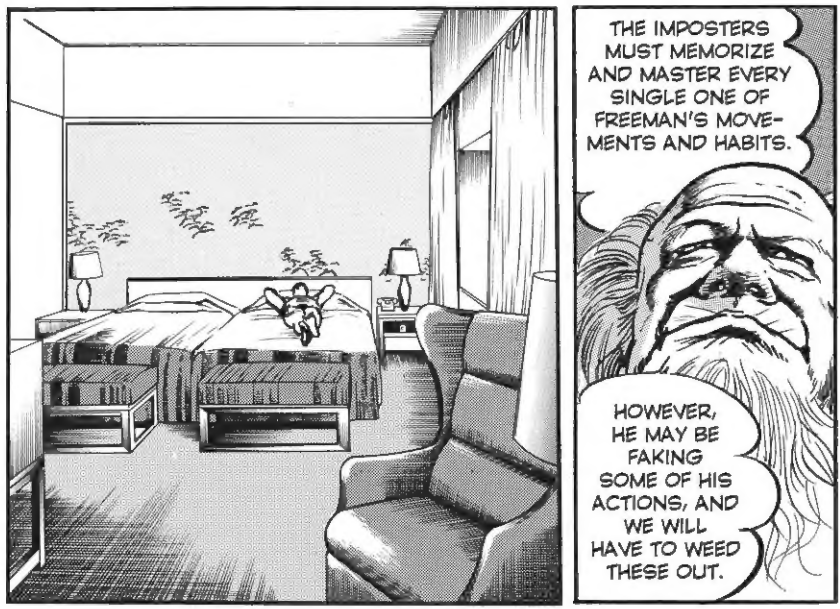
CHAPTER 11

第9話　雄首冬獄(11)

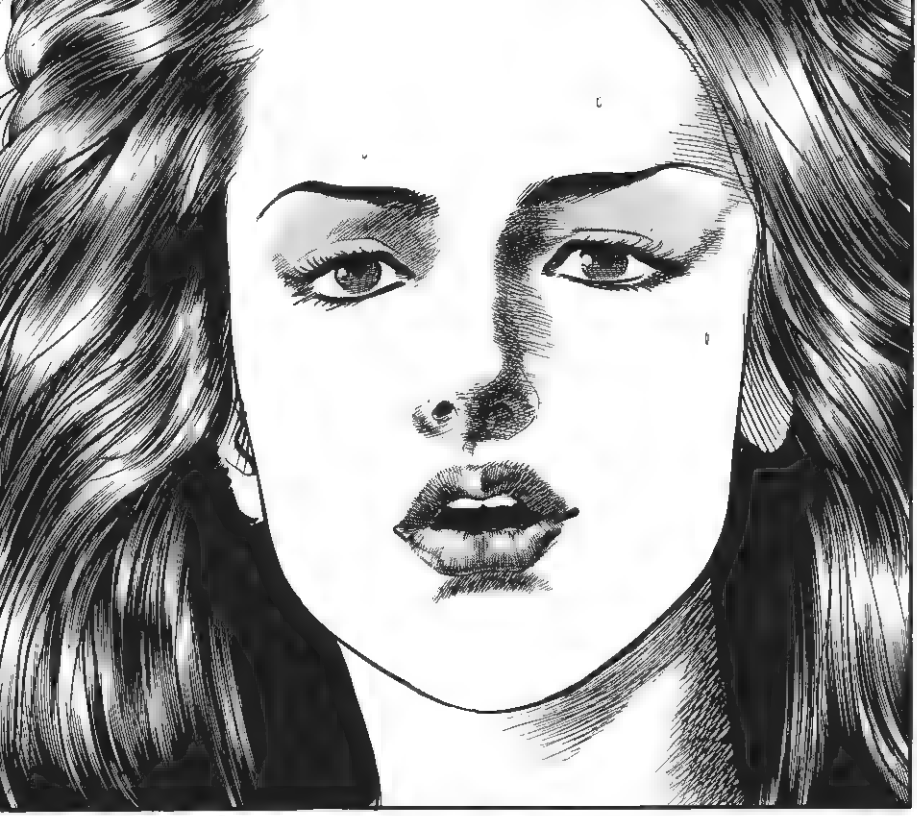


SHE MANAGED TO GET FREEMAN HERE WITH-OUT *OSHU* KILLING HIM!
KIMIE'S THE ONE WHO PULLED IT OFF.
IT WAS NO WASTE SEEKING OUT MEN WITH THE EXACT SAME BODY TYPE AS FREEMAN AND HAVING THEM TATTOOED IN THE HOPES THEY MIGHT PROVE USEFUL SOMEDAY.
I NEVER IMAGINED WE WOULD CAPTURE THE *REAL* FREEMAN SO EASILY, AND ALIVE AT THAT!
THE ACCURACY OF THE DATA YOU ACQUIRED ON FREEMAN WAS OF GREAT SERVICE, *DETECTIVE NITTA.*

*FX: OOH...
ONE HUNDRED MILLION YEN. SPEND IT AS YOU WISH!
YOUR REWARD.


THE IMPOSTERS MUST MEMORIZE AND MASTER EVERY SINGLE ONE OF FREEMAN'S MOVEMENTS AND HABITS.
HOWEVER, HE MAY BE FAKING SOME OF HIS ACTIONS, AND WE WILL HAVE TO WEED THESE OUT.

IN WHAT WAY DOES FREEMAN MAKE LOVE TO HIS WIFE?
BUT OUR BIGGEST OBSTACLES ARE HIS *SEXUAL* MOVEMENTS AND HABITS.



I DRUGGED HIM FORTY MINUTES AGO WITH A SOPORIFIC AND AN AGENT TO INDUCE UNCONSCIOUS ACTS, PLUS A POWERFUL APHRODISIAC MADE FROM SNAKE AND DEER.

NOW WATCH! YOU CAN SEE HIM SWELLING UP!

THE GLANS OF HIS PENIS IS MORE PROMINENT THAN THAT OF OTHER MEN, BUT OUTWARDLY THERE ARE NO OTHER DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS.

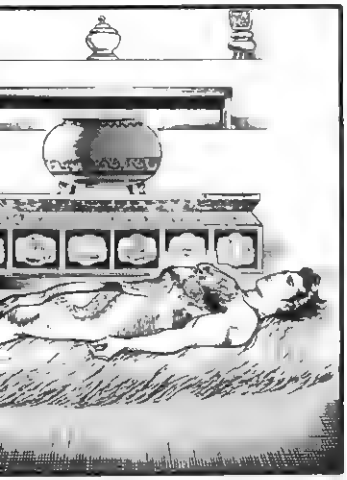
THE SIZE AND LENGTH COULD BE SAID TO BE AVERAGE.

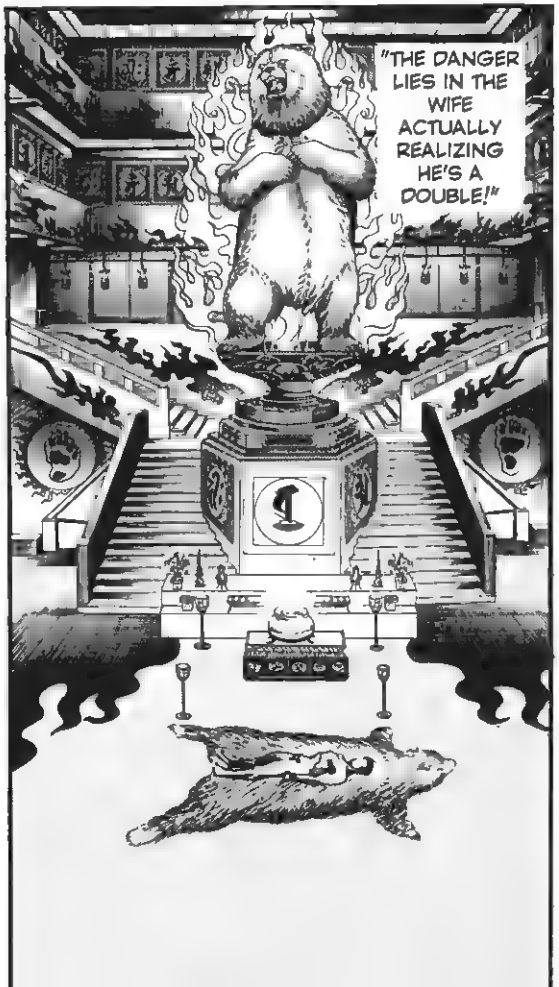
DO NOT OVER-LOOK THE TINIEST DETAIL!
YOU WILL SLEEP WITH FREEMAN AND ABSORB HIS EVERY SINGLE SEXUAL HABIT.
YES, MAS-TER.
KIMIE.
DO NOT BE SO PLEBEIAN, NITTA.
IN THE OLD DAYS, SELLING ONE'S WIFE INTO PROSTI-TUTION WAS CONSIDERED A VIRTUE!
M-MASTER NAIJI!! BUT KIMIE--
NITTA! CAST ASIDE YOUR HUMANITY AND BECOME A DEMON! A DEMON THAT SEEKS REVENGE AGAINST FREEMAN!!
B-BUT ...

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN PLEASURE WITH FREEMAN, BUT BE SURE HE IS IMMERSED ALSO!
THE GREATER THE INTENSITY OF THAT PLEASURE, THE MORE WE WILL BE ABLE TO OBSERVE HIS TRUE BEHAVIOR.
KIMIE!!
YES, MASTER ...

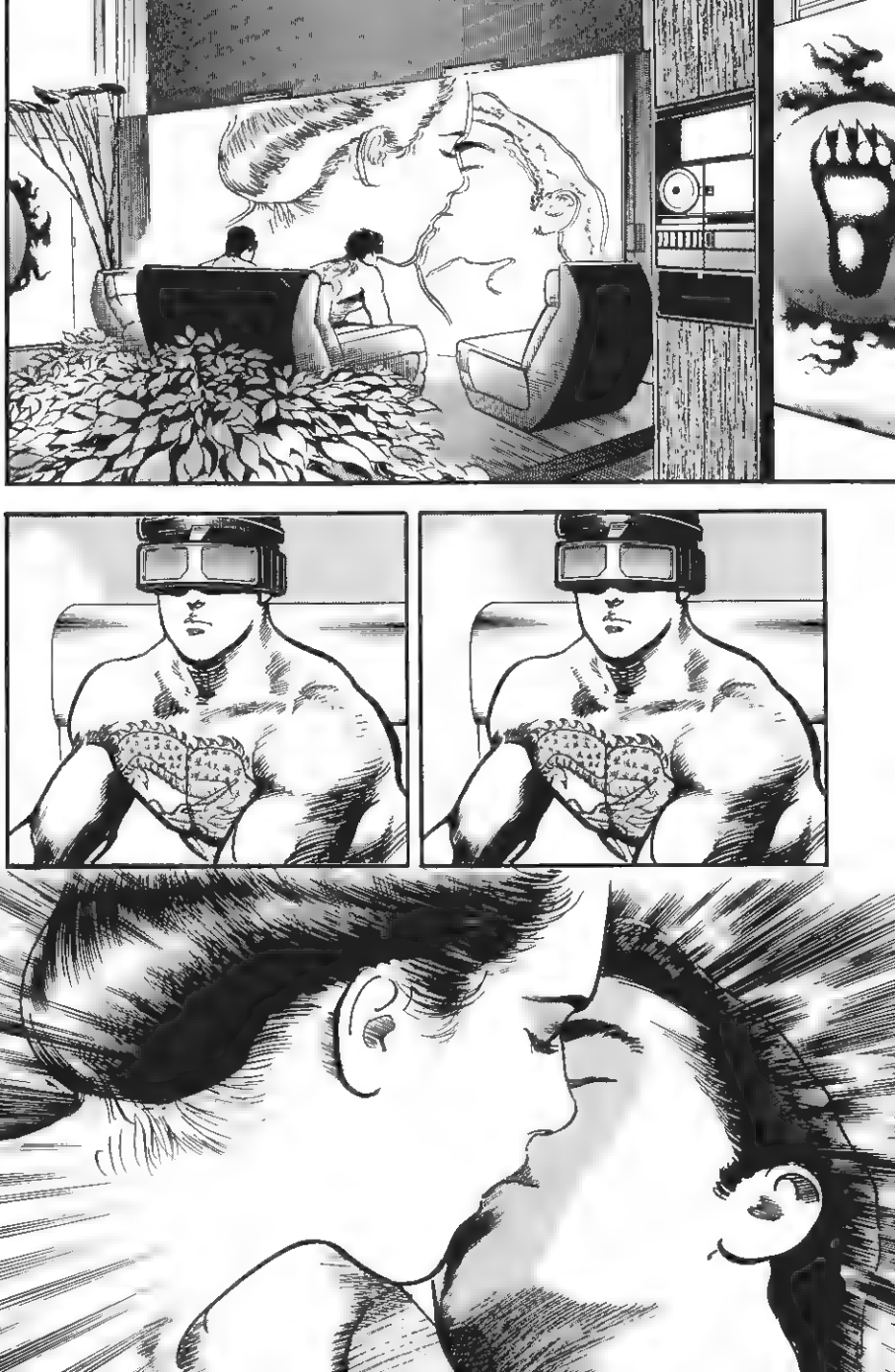
"HE WILL ACT ONLY ON PURE INSTINCT."
"FREEMAN NOW HAS NO AWARENESS OF WHAT HE'S DOING, WHO HE IS, OR WHO HIS PARTNER IS."
"...THEN I SHALL TRULY HOWL WITH JOY!"
"IF THE DOUBLES I'VE CREATED CAN MAKE LOVE TO FREEMAN'S WIFE WITHOUT HER SEEING THROUGH THEM..."

"A LIE, TOLD UNTIL DEATH, BECOMES TRUTH..."
"IF EVEN HIS WIFE CANNOT DETECT THE IMPOSTER, THEN IS HE AN IMPOSTER AT ALL?!"




"THE DANGER LIES IN THE WIFE ACTUALLY REALIZING HE'S A DOUBLE!"

SHSS SHSS SFX:
しゅる
しゅる……

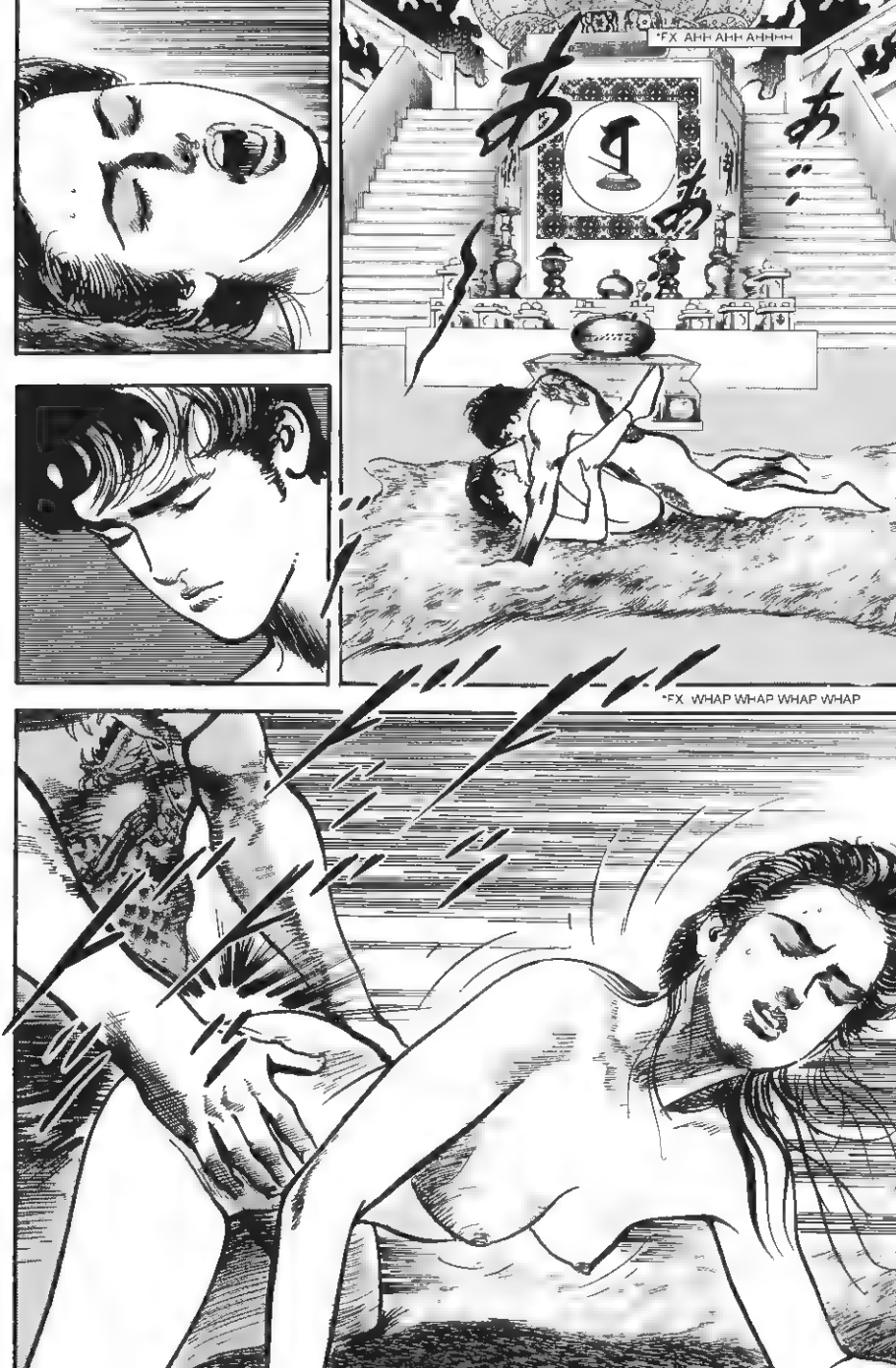


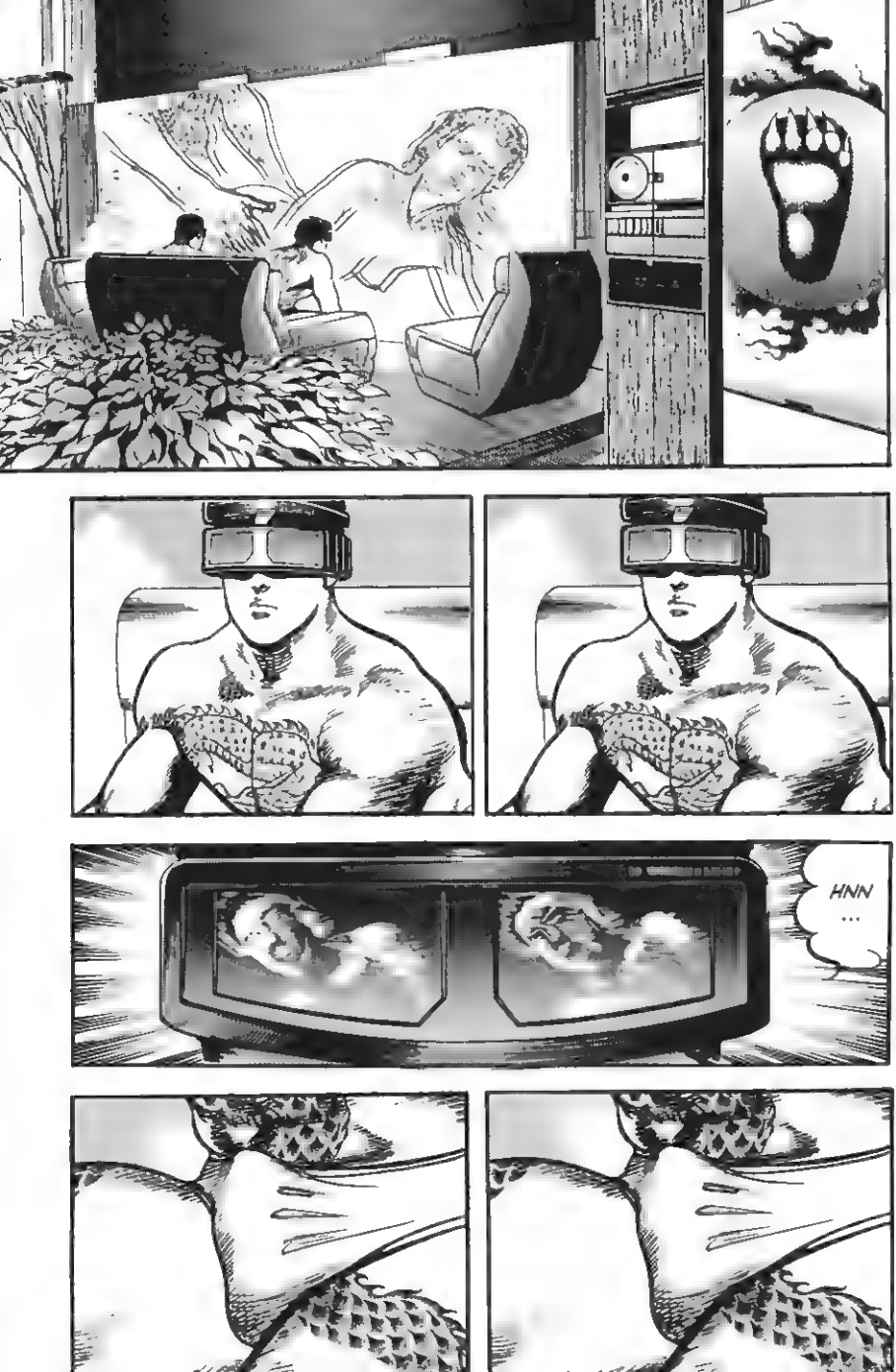
*FX AHH AHH AHHHH

*FX AHH AHH AHHHH
あ
あ
"MASTER NAIJI..."
"... THERE'S ONE THING THAT BOTHERS ME."
"HOW COME FREEMAN'S SO RELAXED?"
"WHY IS HE JUST DOING WHATEVER WE WANT HIM TO?"

*FX AHHHH
"...BUT SOME-HOW IT STILL WORRIES ME..."
"YOU'VE SAID HE'S IN A TOTALLY HELPLESS STATE, SO IT MUST BE TRUE..."

TOHGOKU OSHU
CHAPTER 12
第9話 雄首冬獄(12)

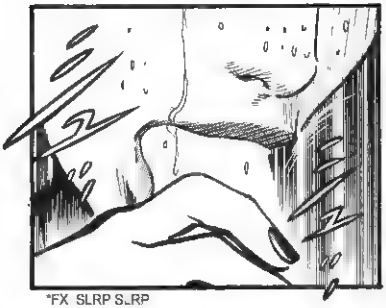

*FX AHH AHH AHHHH
あ
*FX WHAP WHAP WHAP WHAP


HNN
...

UHH...!
UHH...!
UHH...!
*FX SHUDDER SHUDDER SHUDDER
*FX WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP
*FX HRR HRR HRR

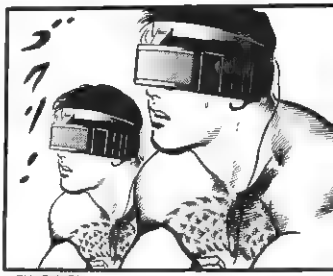
AHHHH!!
AAHHHH!!

*FX GRR RR RR



*FX SLRP S_RP

*FX CHFF CHFF CHFF CHFF CHFF
AHHH... SO GOOD !!
*FX NKK



'FX. GULP'

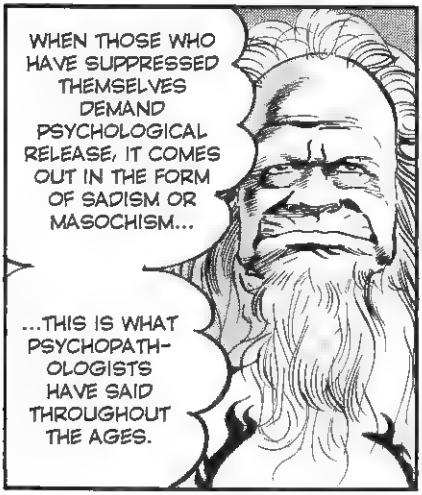
*FX SHUP SHUP SHUP SHUP
I...
I'M COMING ...!!

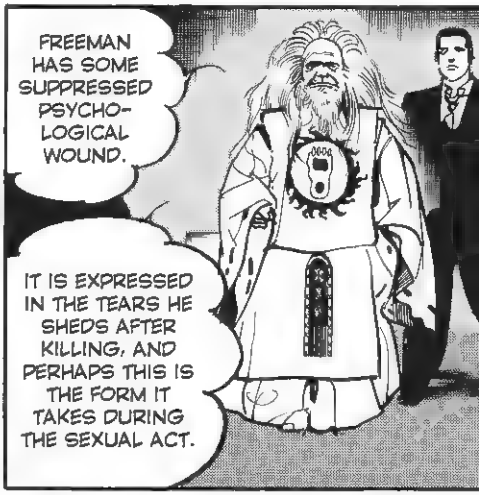
*FX HRRK
URGH!!

AAH!
TH-
THAT
SON
OF A
BITCH!!
BAH!!
YOU
FOOL!!

B-
BUT
...
NITTA! DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO BECOME A DEMON?!
TO EXACT YOUR REVENGE AGAINST FREEMAN YOU MUST HAVE THE MIND OF ONE!!
AAH!!
-UGK-

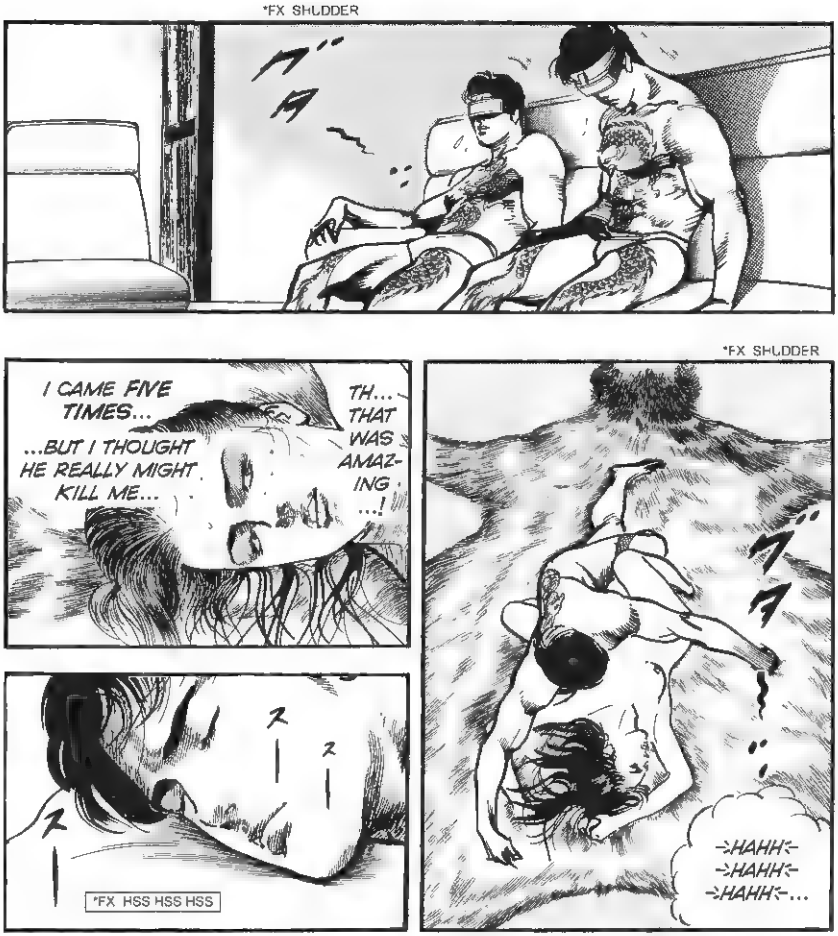
"HE WILL NOT KILL HER, NOR WILL HE GO SO FAR AS TO LEAVE ANY BRUISES. WE KNOW THIS BECAUSE FREEMAN'S WIFE RETAINS HER BEAUTY AND LIVES UNHARMED."
"KIMIE IS FIGHTING HIM BY INGULGING FREEMAN IN HIS PLEASURE, TO TRY TO REVEAL THIS TRUE SIDE OF HIM!"
"THANKS TO THE SOPORIFIC, APHRODISIAC, AND UNCONSCIOUS ACT-INDUCING AGENTS I USED, THIS IS AN ACTION UNCONNECTED TO FREEMAN'S CONSCIOUS WILL."
"*THIS* ACT SHOWS HOW FREEMAN *TRULY* BEHAVES IN HIS CONJUGAL BED..."


WHEN THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPRESSED THEMSELVES DEMAND PSYCHOLOGICAL RELEASE, IT COMES OUT IN THE FORM OF SADISM OR MASOCHISM...
...THIS IS WHAT PSYCHOPATHOLOGISTS HAVE SAID THROUGHOUT THE AGES.


FREEMAN HAS SOME SUPPRESSED PSYCHOLOGICAL WOUND.
IT IS EXPRESSED IN THE TEARS HE SHEDS AFTER KILLING, AND PERHAPS THIS IS THE FORM IT TAKES DURING THE SEXUAL ACT.

*FX ULP!
ピクッ!?
NOW... WATCH CLOSELY!!

UGHKK
--!!
-:PHEW:-
*FX WHUMP


*FX SHUDDER
I CAME FIVE TIMES...
...BUT I THOUGHT HE REALLY MIGHT KILL ME...
TH... THAT WAS AMAZ-ING ...!
*FX HSS HSS HSS
*FX SHUDDER
-:HAHH:-
-:HAHH:-
-:HAHH:-...
THE WHOLE TIME HE WAS TOTALLY COMPOSED... EVEN WHEN HE WAS WRINGING MY NECK...
I WONDER WHY FREEMAN WAS SO CALM?

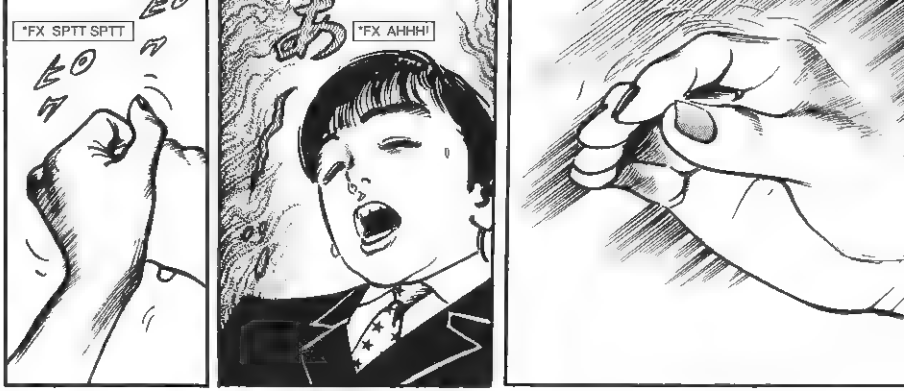
BUT--
NO...!
H-HE NEVER EVEN CAME! WH- WHY...?!
NO. I'M NOT FINISHED WITH HIM YET.
HUH? WHY NOT?
MASTER NAIJI, IT'S TIME TO KEEP YOUR PROMISE. YOU SAID YOU'D HAND HIM OVER TO ME.
NOW WE KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT FREEMAN.

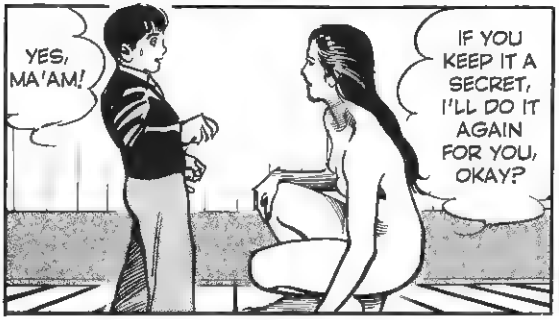
IF NECESSARY, KIMIE MAY HAVE TO SLEEP WITH HIM A SECOND TIME.
TO BE FINISHED, THERE CANNOT BE A SINGLE POINT OF VARIATION WITH THE DOUBLES.
WE MUST QUESTION KIMIE ABOUT FREEMAN'S SEXUAL BEHAVIOR, AND WE MUST KNOW ABOUT HIS SEXUAL *PATTERNS*.
WHAT --?!
.....

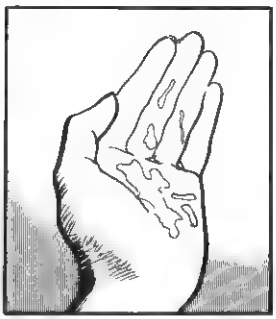
TOHGOKU OSHU
CHAPTER 13
第9話 雄首冬獄(13)

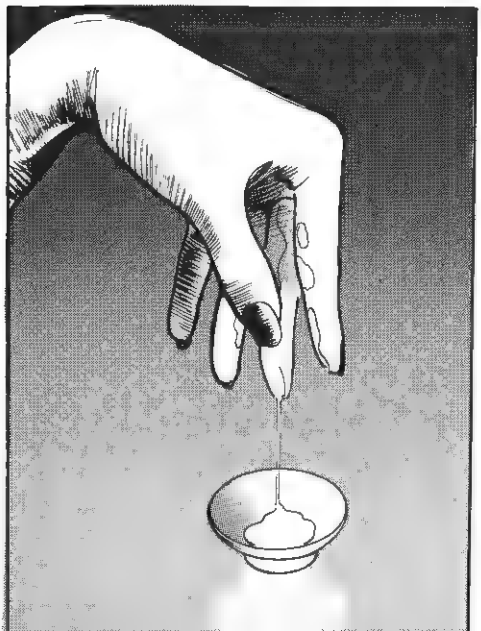
*FX SHHSSS
*FX SHHSSS
BRING ME A BEER!
WHY DIDN'T HE COME...?!
WHY...?!

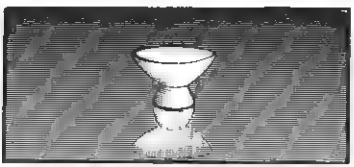
*FX KNOCK KNOCK
IT'S FINE. COME IN.
*FX ZZZ P
*FX AAH

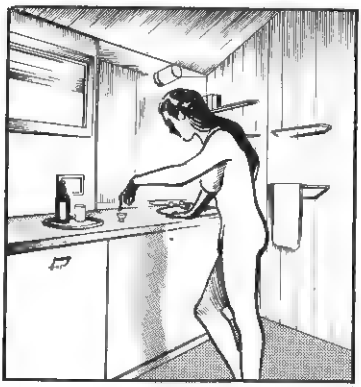

*FX SPTT SPTT
*FX AHHH!


YES, MA'AM!
IF YOU KEEP IT A SECRET, I'LL DO IT AGAIN FOR YOU, OKAY?









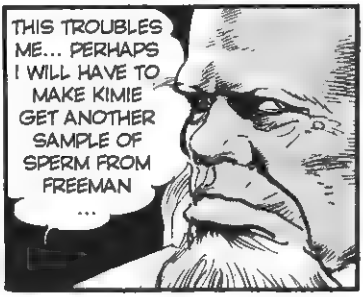
HMM. HIS SEED IS YOUNG.
*FX GLUG

*FX SHFF SHFF
AN-
OTHER
BEER!
I'M
TYPE
B.
WHAT'S
YOUR
BLOOD
TYPE?
*FX WHEW
*FX GULP
*FX SMILE

ODD... FREEMAN SHOULD HAVE HAD A VASECTOMY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BLOOD RULES OF HIS ORGANI-ZATION...
PLENTY OF SPERM HERE.

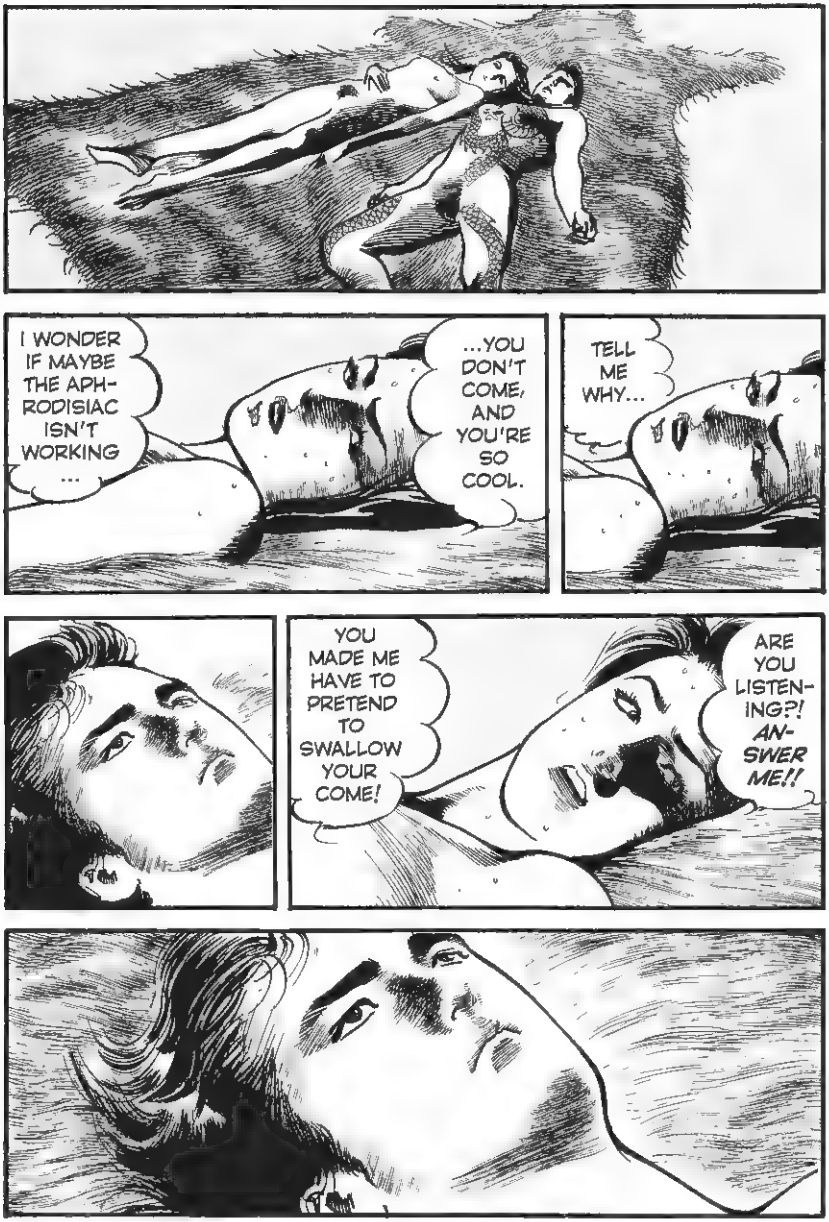
...SO HE MUST NOT HAVE HAD THE VAS-ECTOMY YET... IS THAT IT?
THE SEMEN CERTAINLY BELONGS TO FREEMAN, THERE'S NO MISTAKE ABOUT THAT...

MEAN-ING ...?


THIS TROUBLES ME... PERHAPS I WILL HAVE TO MAKE KIMIE GET ANOTHER SAMPLE OF SPERM FROM FREEMAN ...

AHHH!
AHHH!
AAHHH!!
URGH
...!
*FX SHJDDER

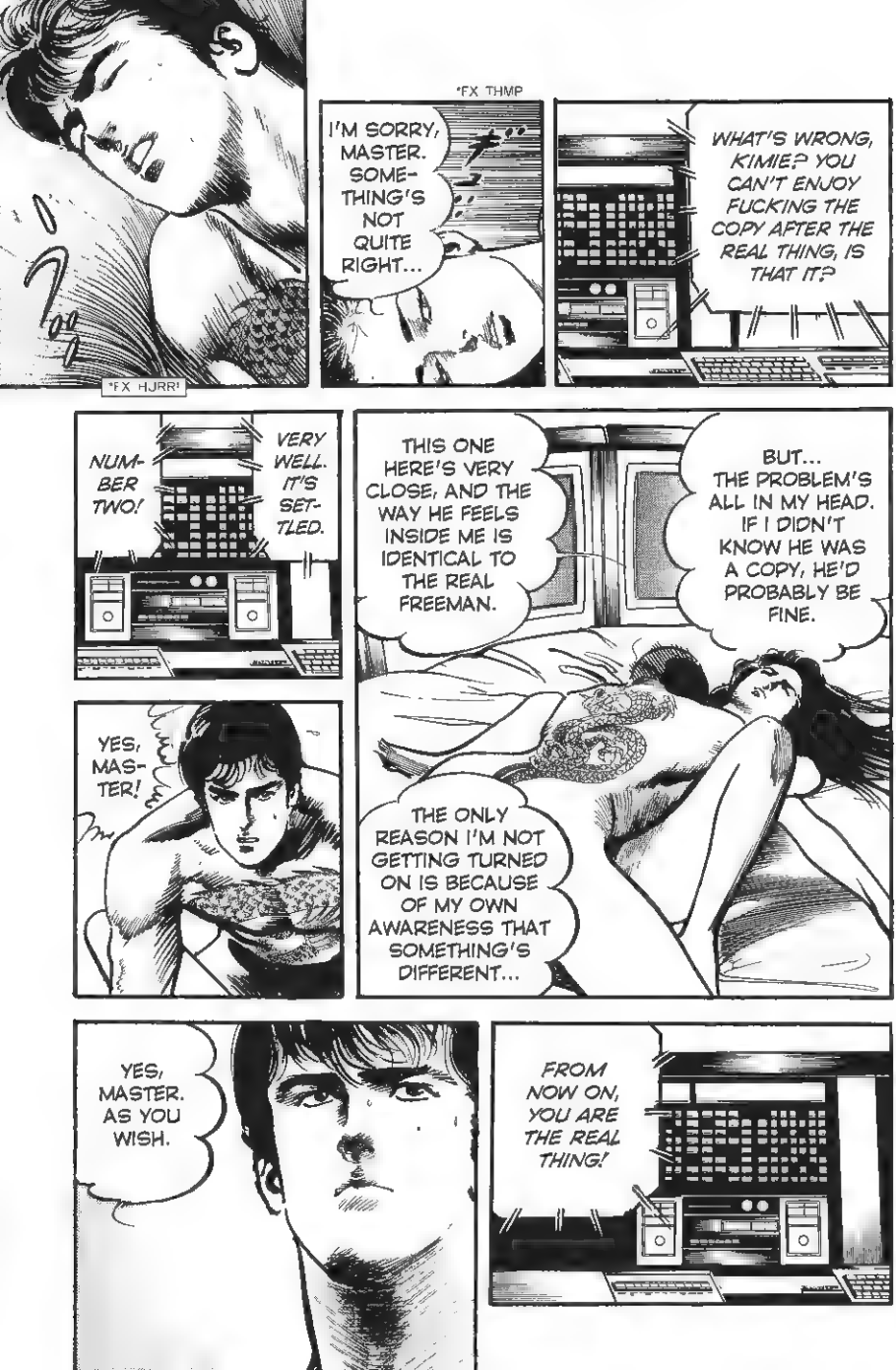
YOU'RE MAKING ME LOSE FACE AS A WOMAN!!
TELL ME WHY!!
WHY DIDN'T YOU EJACU-LATE?!!
I'LL MAKE YOU COME NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES, GODDAMN IT!!
*FX WHUMP
*FX SLRP SLRP SLRP
HOW LONG CAN FREEMAN TAKE IT?!
IT SEEMS TO BE THE TRUTH!
A-HA! KIMIE IS ON FIRE! HOHOHOHO... THEY SAY THERE ARE NO LIMITS TO A WOMAN'S DESIRE...

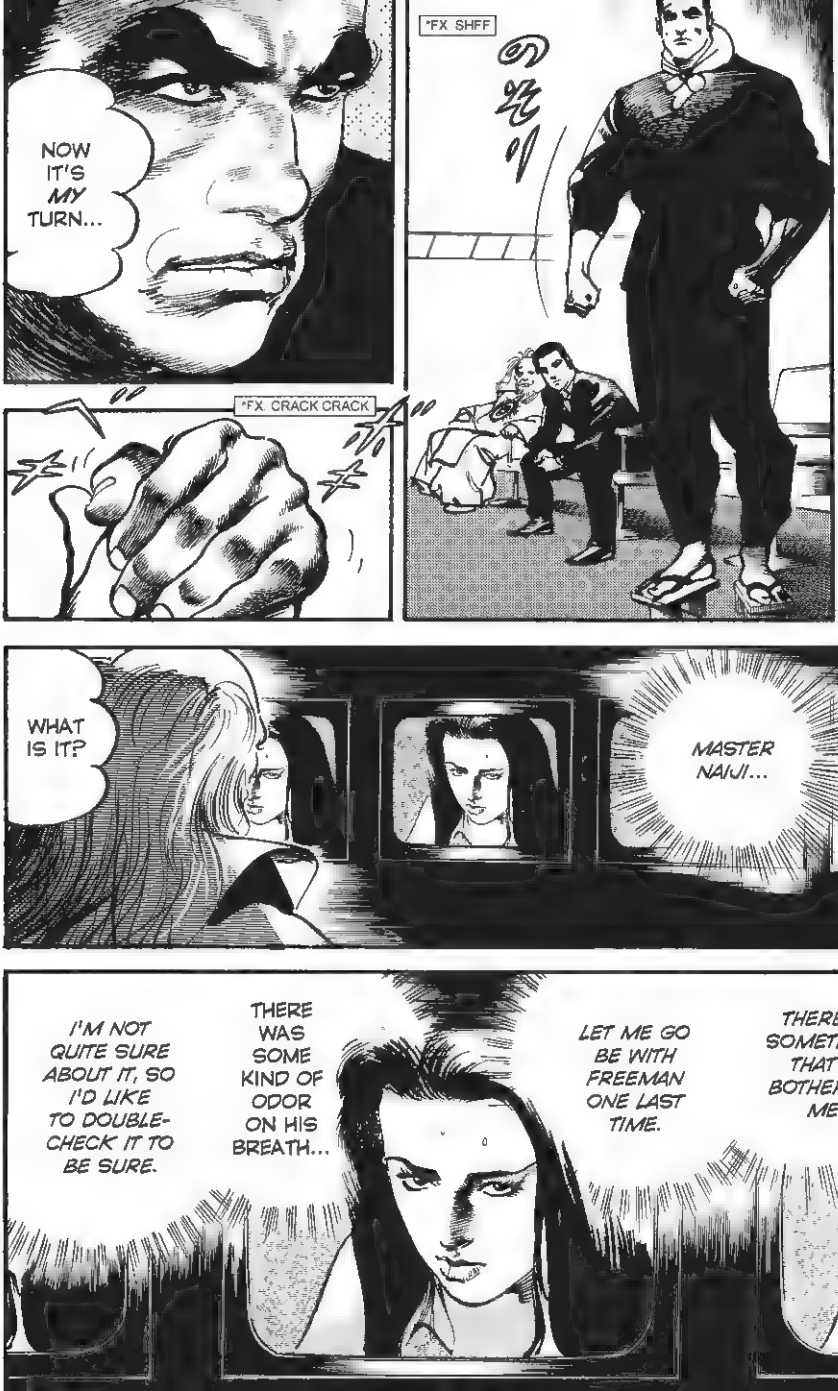

I WONDER IF MAYBE THE APHRODISIAC ISN'T WORKING ...
...YOU DON'T COME, AND YOU'RE SO COOL.
TELL ME WHY...
YOU MADE ME HAVE TO PRETEND TO SWALLOW YOUR COME!
ARE YOU LISTENING?! ANSWER ME!!

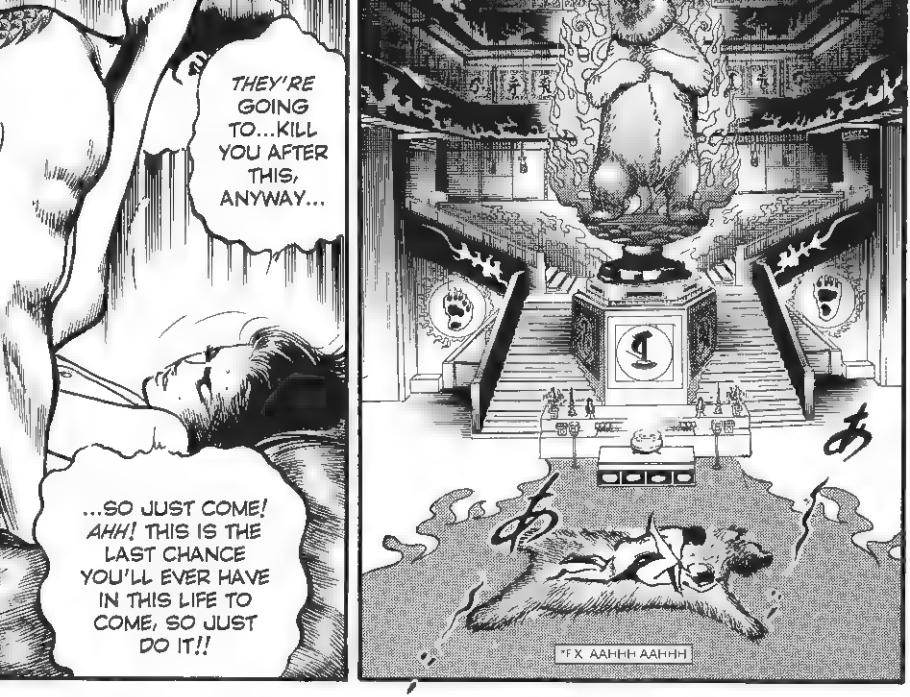
HMPH.
HE HASN'T HAD A VAS-ECTOMY.

*FX AHH AHH AHH
*FX SHUP SHUP SHUP

.....


*FX HJRR!
*FX THMP
I'M SORRY, MASTER. SOMETHING'S NOT QUITE RIGHT...
WHAT'S WRONG, KIMIE? YOU CAN'T ENJOY FUCKING THE COPY AFTER THE REAL THING, IS THAT IT?
NUMBER TWO!
VERY WELL. IT'S SETTLED.
YES, MASTER!
THIS ONE HERE'S VERY CLOSE, AND THE WAY HE FEELS INSIDE ME IS IDENTICAL TO THE REAL FREEMAN.
BUT... THE PROBLEM'S ALL IN MY HEAD. IF I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS A COPY, HE'D PROBABLY BE FINE.
THE ONLY REASON I'M NOT GETTING TURNED ON IS BECAUSE OF MY OWN AWARENESS THAT SOMETHING'S DIFFERENT...
YES, MASTER. AS YOU WISH.
FROM NOW ON, YOU ARE THE REAL THING!

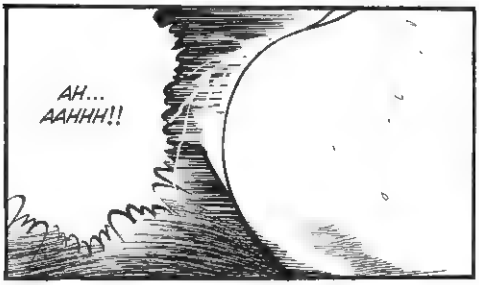

NOW IT'S MY TURN...
*FX SHFF
*FX CRACK CRACK
WHAT IS IT?
MASTER NAIJI...
I'M NOT QUITE SURE ABOUT IT, SO I'D LIKE TO DOUBLE-CHECK IT TO BE SURE.
THERE WAS SOME KIND OF ODOR ON HIS BREATH...
LET ME GO BE WITH FREEMAN ONE LAST TIME.
THERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S BOTHERING ME.


THEY'RE GOING TO...KILL YOU AFTER THIS, ANYWAY...
...SO JUST COME! AHH! THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE YOU'LL EVER HAVE IN THIS LIFE TO COME, SO JUST DO IT!!
*FX AAHHH AAHHH

*FX AHH

THEY'RE WATCHING OUR EVERY MOVE!
LEAVE THAT BIT OF YOURSELF IN ME!!
PUT YOUR SEED INSIDE ME!
IF YOU DON'T COME... I'LL... HAVE TO PRETEND TO SWALLOW AGAIN...
PLEASE ...!!

IF YOU BECOME A WOMAN WHO ACCEPTS MY LOVE...
...IF YOU BECOME *MINE* FOREVER ...
...I'LL DO WHAT YOU WANT.

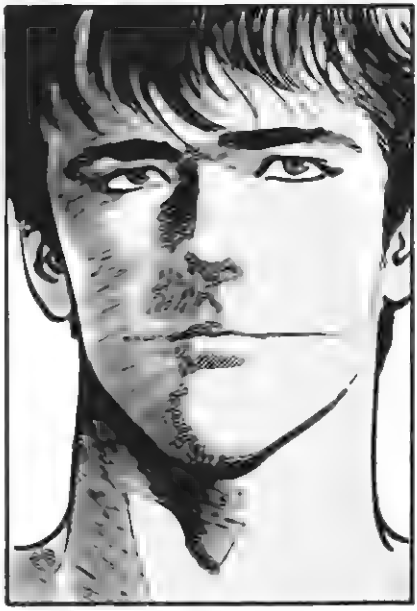

AH... AAHHH!!

DO IT!!

*FX AHH

I KNOW THEY'RE STILL WATCHING ME, BUT IS MY DOUBLE ALREADY COMPLETE?
YESSS ...
LEAVE THE KEY TO THIS ROOM WHEN YOU GO...
YESSS ...
WHERE'S THE DOUBLE'S ROOM?

FX WHRRRRN



TOHGOKU OSHU
CHAPTER 34
第34話 雄首冬獄14

PUT ON YOUR CLOTHES WHEN YOU'RE WALKING AROUND.
YES, MASTER?
NUMBER TWO ...
*FX. GRIN
SO I DID!
BUT YOU TOLD ME THAT TO FULLY BECOME FREEMAN, I MUST DO AS HE DOES IN *EVERY* RESPECT ...

YES... RIGHT THERE ...
NO! MORE *SMOOTHLY* WITH YOUR INDEX FINGER...
HARDER, AND USE YOUR PINKIE...

NOT INSIDE. JUST CARESS AROUND THE OPENING...

*FX SHRR

*FX: WHUMP

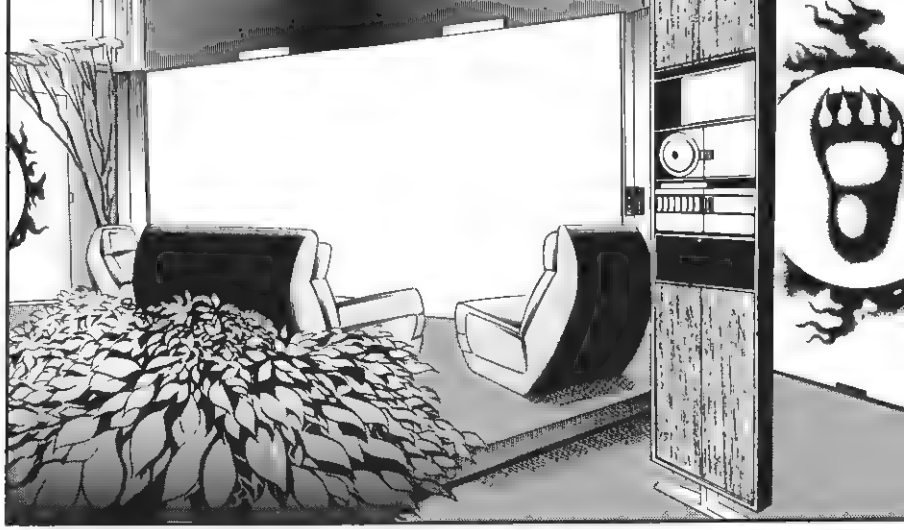
IF ANYONE COMES BY, KEEP THEM BUSY.

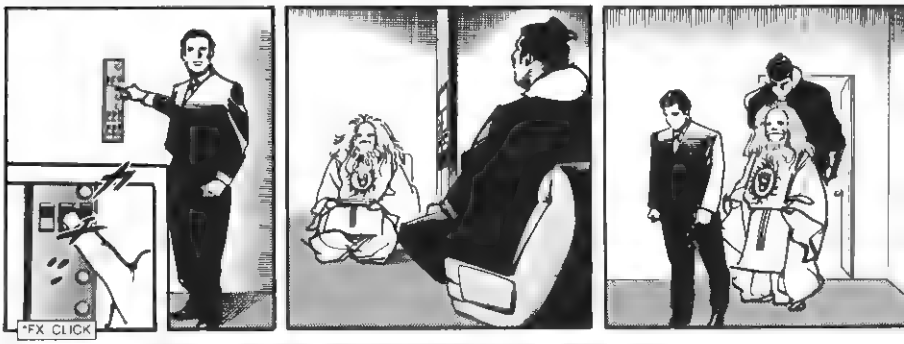
*FX WHRRRNN
WHAT'RE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
*FX HUH
*FX SMIRK
SURE.
COULD YOU HOLD ONTO THIS CHECK FOR ME?

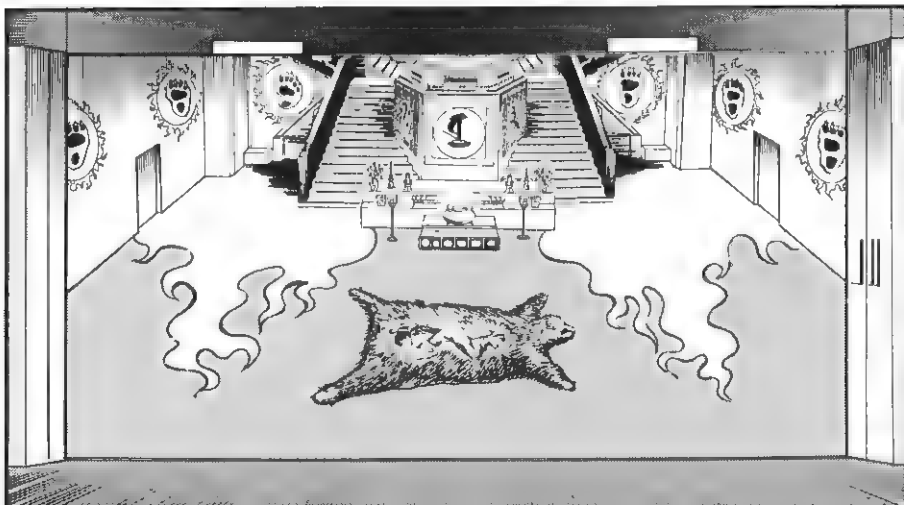
GOT ANY SMOKES?
*FX PHHH
*FX FWSHH
I ALWAYS KNEW YOU WERE THE BEST!
*FX PHHHH
PLEASE PROTECT ME...! I FEEL SCARED FOR SOME REASON...

I'VE TAKEN AWAY YOUR VOICE. IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE, YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT YOUR WAY TO IT.
THIS DRAGON TATTOO SYMBOLIZES THE FIGHT TO WIN FREEDOM.

*FX WHAP WHAP WHAP WHAP
*FX OOH
FX OH
*FX SHFF




*FX CLICK

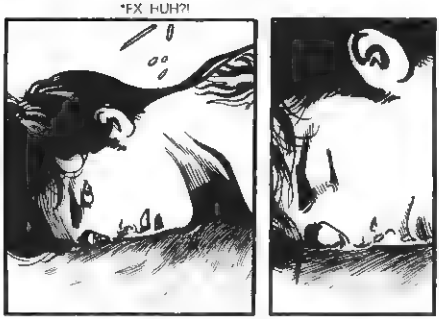


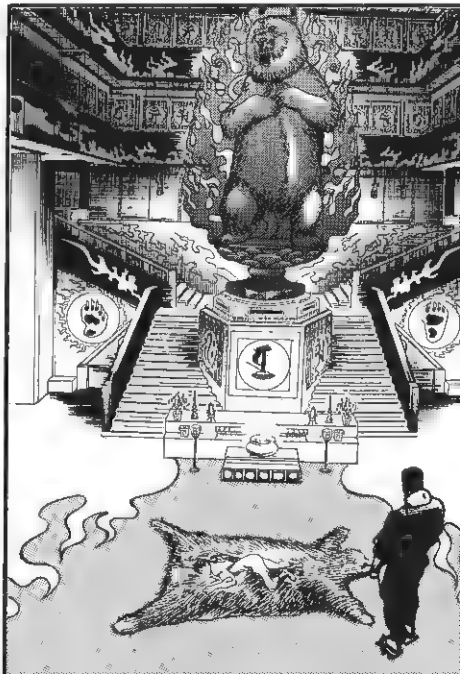
NO, MASTER.
NO LOOSE ENDS?
AND NOW THE REBORN *LONG TAI YANG* SHALL RISE JUST AS THE DRAGON! JUST AS THE SUN!

*FX HRR

*FX GRRAHH

*FX HUH?!





*FX WHA--?
*FX SHFF
*FX GRRAAAHH!
龍太陽絶叫自由人居士
*funeral tablet LONG TAI YANG CRY NG FREEMAN

*FX GLANCE
ちら!
*FX SMILE
*FX THWUMP
OF COURSE, HE'S SO YOUNG.
HE IS PARALYZED WITH FEAR AND LACKS COMPOSED RESOLVE.
HOW VERY SAD... FREEMAN IS SAID TO BE SUCH AN EXCEPTIONAL KILLING MACHINE, AND YET HE FACES HIS OWN DEATH WITH SUCH IGNOBILITY ...

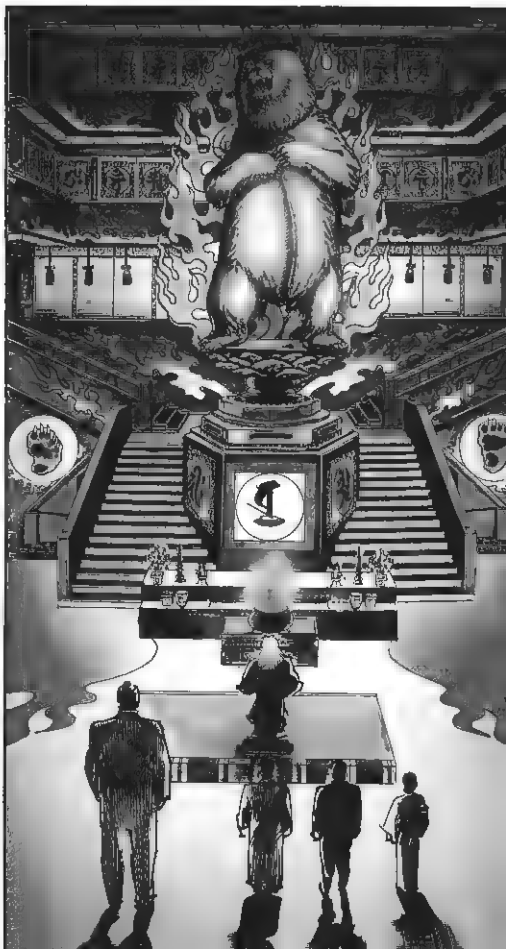
*FX HRR
*FX CRACK CRACK
*FX WHOOM
*FX CRAK
FX HRR

*FX GRRRAAHH!
*FX SNNIKT
*FX SHKK

*FX SPJTCH
HE OVER-DOES IT, DOESN'T HE?
*FX THUD

INTO THE TIGER'S LAIR
TO SNARE HER CUBS
CHAPTER 1
第10話 虎穴に入らずんば
虎児を得ず(1)

HERE NOW WE MERGE WITH THE 108 DRAGONS ORGANIZATION TO BECOME THE MOST POWERFUL SYNDICATE IN THE WORLD!!
GOD OF THE GREAT BEAR! BESTOW UPON US YOUR DIVINE PROTECTION!



*FX ROOAAARRR!!
*FX WHA ?
FX FWSSH!!

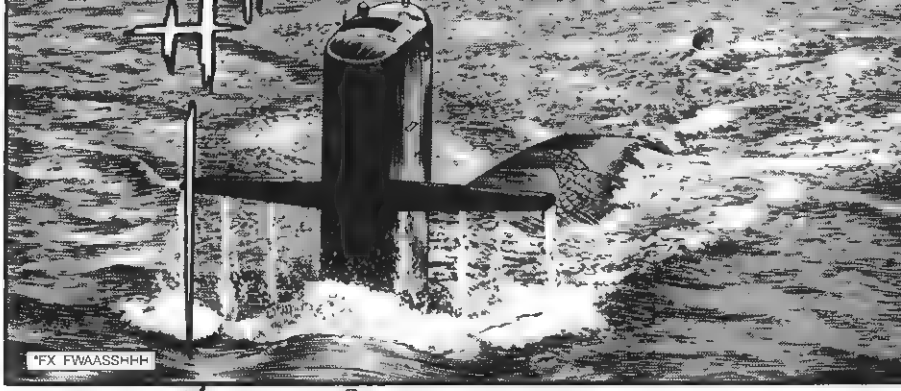
*FX HRRR HRRR
*FX SHHFFF
*FX JITTER JITTER
おビ
おビ…
FREEMAN REBORN, GO BEFORE THE URSINE EMISSARY OF THE GOD OF THE GREAT BEAR!
*FX THWACK

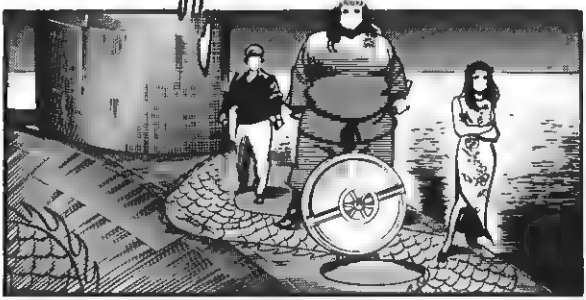
*FX WHJD
YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO BE LONG TAI YANG!!
WOULD THE LEADER OF A GREAT ORGANIZATION SUCH AS THE 108 DRAGONS HESITATE AT SUCH A THING?!?
AAAH...!
*FX TRP TRIP

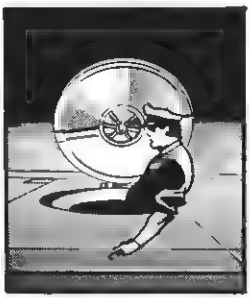
*FX RROOAAARRR
AAAA-
HHH!!

*FX SHFF!
YOU MUST NEVER FORGET YOUR DUTY!
FREEMAN! DO NOT OPPOSE MY AUTH-ORITY!
AND ALWAYS HOLD THE GOD OF THE GREAT BEAR IN REVERENCE, AWE, AND RESPECT!
*FX SHH SHH
GOOD! GOOD! GOOD! NOW YOU DEPART FOR HONG KONG!!
YES, MASTER.

JAPAN AIR LINES
JAL


*FX FWAASSHHH

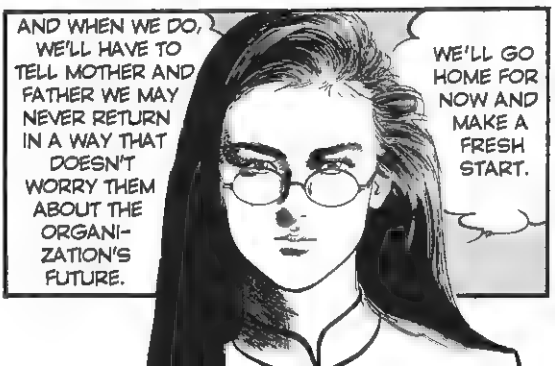




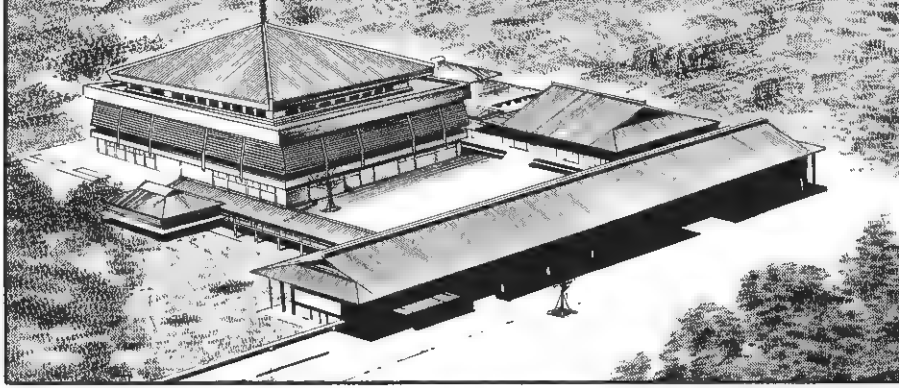
BUT ...

WE'LL WAIT ONE MORE DAY, THEN GO HOME. THAT'S WHAT WE PROMISED HIM WE'D DO.
HE DID.

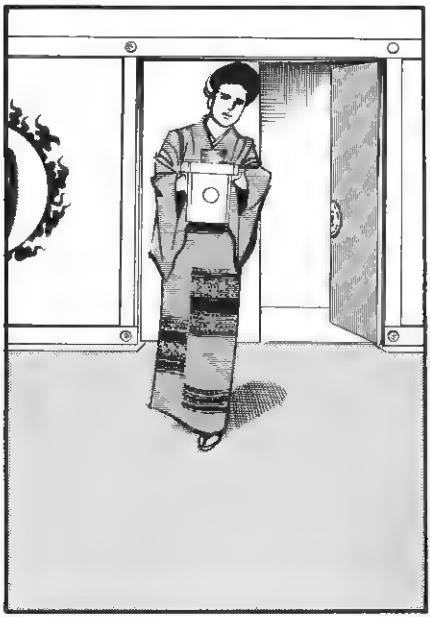
SURE HOPE SOME-THING DIDN'T HAPPEN TO BIG BROTHER ...
IT'S BEEN TWENTY DAYS... HE PROMISED HE'D BE BACK!


AND WHEN WE DO, WE'LL HAVE TO TELL MOTHER AND FATHER WE MAY NEVER RETURN IN A WAY THAT DOESN'T WORRY THEM ABOUT THE ORGANI-ZATION'S FUTURE.
WE'LL GO HOME FOR NOW AND MAKE A FRESH START.

UNDERSTOOD, MA'AM.
WE'RE GOING HOME!
YEAH
FX VWOOOOSH



-:CLAP:-
-:CLAP:-

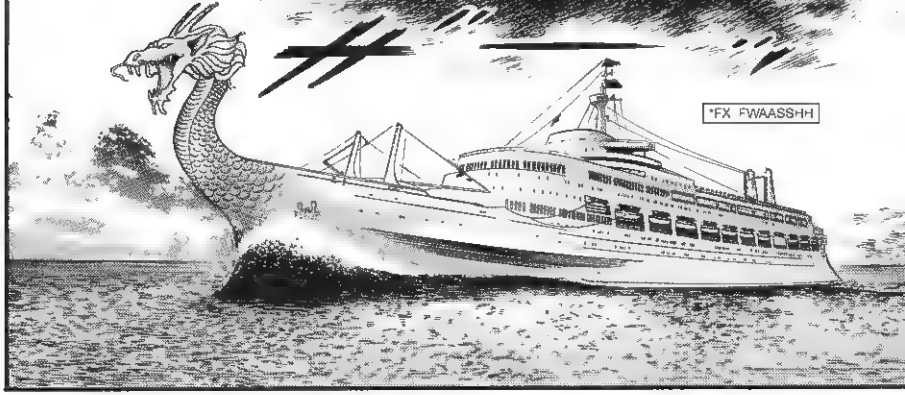


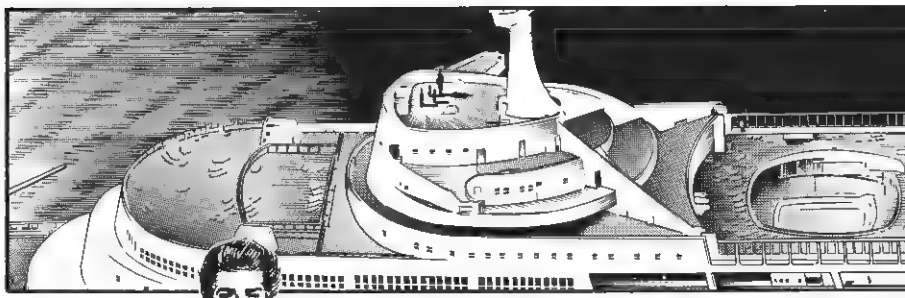
WELL, MR. MIKAGE!
THANKS TO THIS MOST FORTUNATE COINCIDENCE, THAT WHICH I MOST DESIRED-- THE 108 DRAGONS ORGANIZATION-- IS NOW MINE!

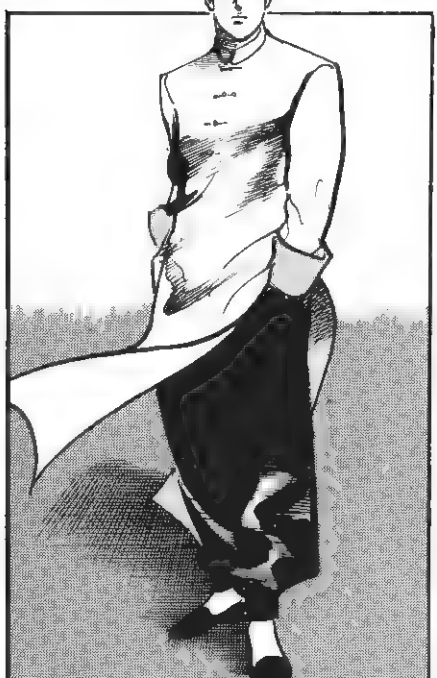
TEN MILLION YEN. IT IS A PITTANCE, BUT PLEASE ACCEPT IT.
IF IT SHOULD PLEASE YOU, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE THIS WOMAN TO LOOK AFTER YOU?
IT HAS BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE YOUR WIFE PASSED AWAY, HASN'T IT?
OOH ...!
WHY, THANK YOU! THANK YOU!!
MY NAME IS AYA TA-KEMI.
*FX MM

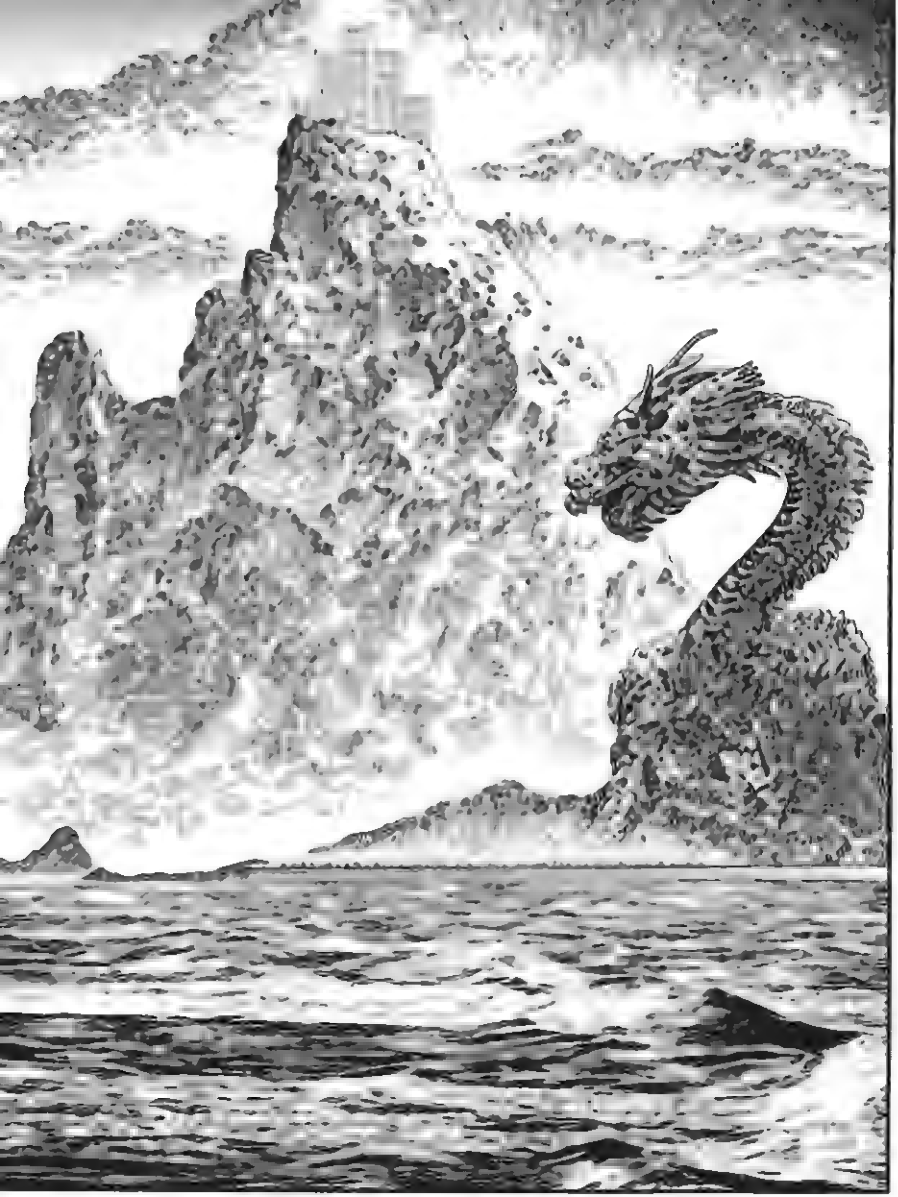
HAS IT ALL GONE WELL?
WITHOUT THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDED US, OUR ATTEMPTS TO CREATE DOUBLES OF LONG TAI YANG WOULD HAVE BEEN POINTLESS, NO MATTER OUR EFFORTS.
TO THINK! THAT ONE OF *YOUR* STUDENTS ENDED UP BECOMING LONG TAI YANG'S WIFE!
THE TRUE LONG TAI YANG IS ALREADY GONE FROM THIS WORLD ...
HE HAS BEEN INDOCTRINATED WITH EVERY PIECE OF YOUR INFORMATION!
...AND AN IMPOSTER IS ON HIS WAY TO HONG KONG! *WA-HA-HA-HAHAHA HAHA!*
EVERYTHING HAS GONE PERFECTLY! *WA-HAHAHAHA!*
FIRST I SENT KAIEDA, BEARING WITH HIM MURAMASA, THEN YOU.

AHH ...!
AAH !!
*FX WHJD
FX LGH
*FX WHJD
HOW SWEET TO DIE IN THE ACT, EH, PROFES-SOR?
UGKK ...


*FX FWAASSHH

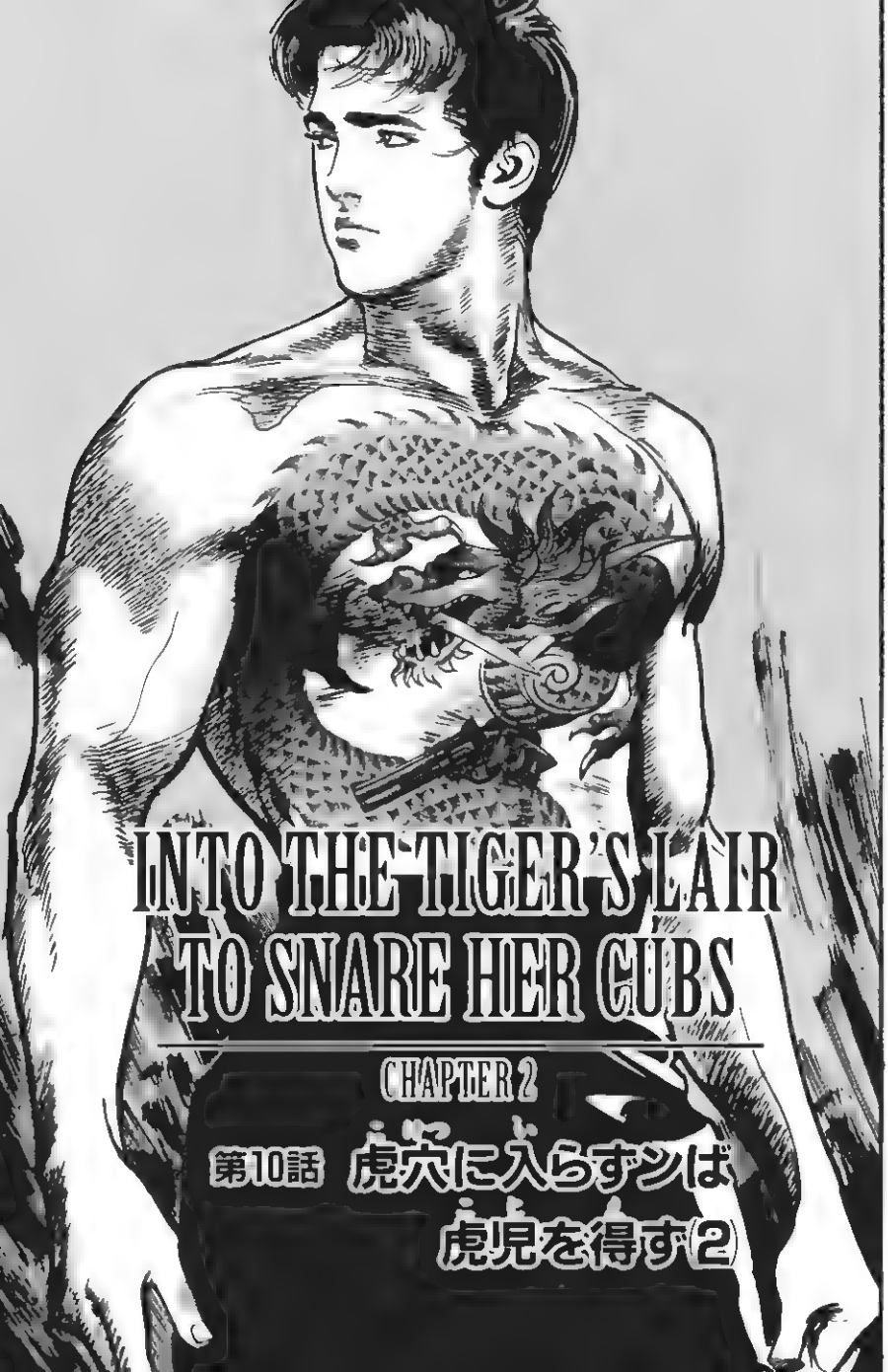






龍門

<GOOD WORK, MEN.>



INTO THE TIGER'S LAIR TO SNARE HER CUBS

CHAPTER 2

第10話 虎穴に入らずんば虎児を得ず(2)

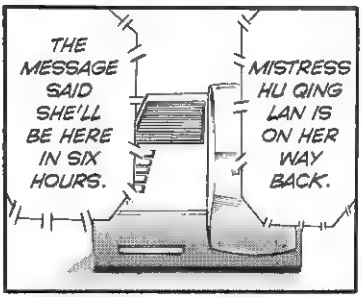
*FX HUH?

WHAT ABOUT TOHGOKU OSHU?
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, BUG-NUG.
F... FREE... MAN...
WE'LL BEAT HIM. I PROMISE.

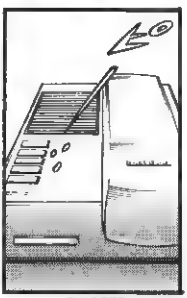
SHH! THE WALLS HAVE EARS!
YOU'RE DOING ALL RIGHT, COPY MAN.

YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE!

YOU'RE JUST LIKE THE REAL FREEMAN. NO ONE SUSPECTS A THING. YOU'VE EVEN GOT THAT DIGNITY ABOUT YOU.
EVEN I'M SURPRISED YOU MANAGED TO GET THIS FAR.

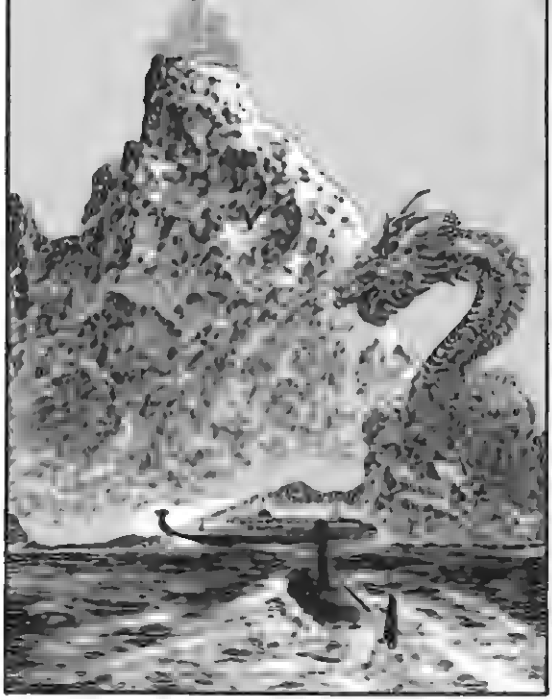

THE MESSAGE SAID SHE'LL BE HERE IN SIX HOURS.
MISTRESS HU QING LAN IS ON HER WAY BACK.

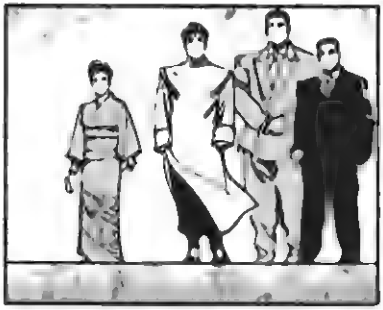
<WHAT IS IT?>



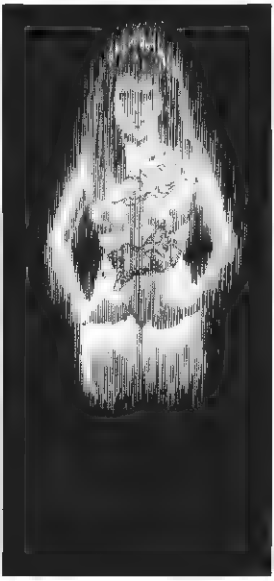
*FX BEEP

IF SHE SEES THROUGH YOU, *NONE OF US* WALKS OUT OF HERE ALIVE.
THE HAPPY COUPLE FINALLY MEETS.
THE MOMENT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.

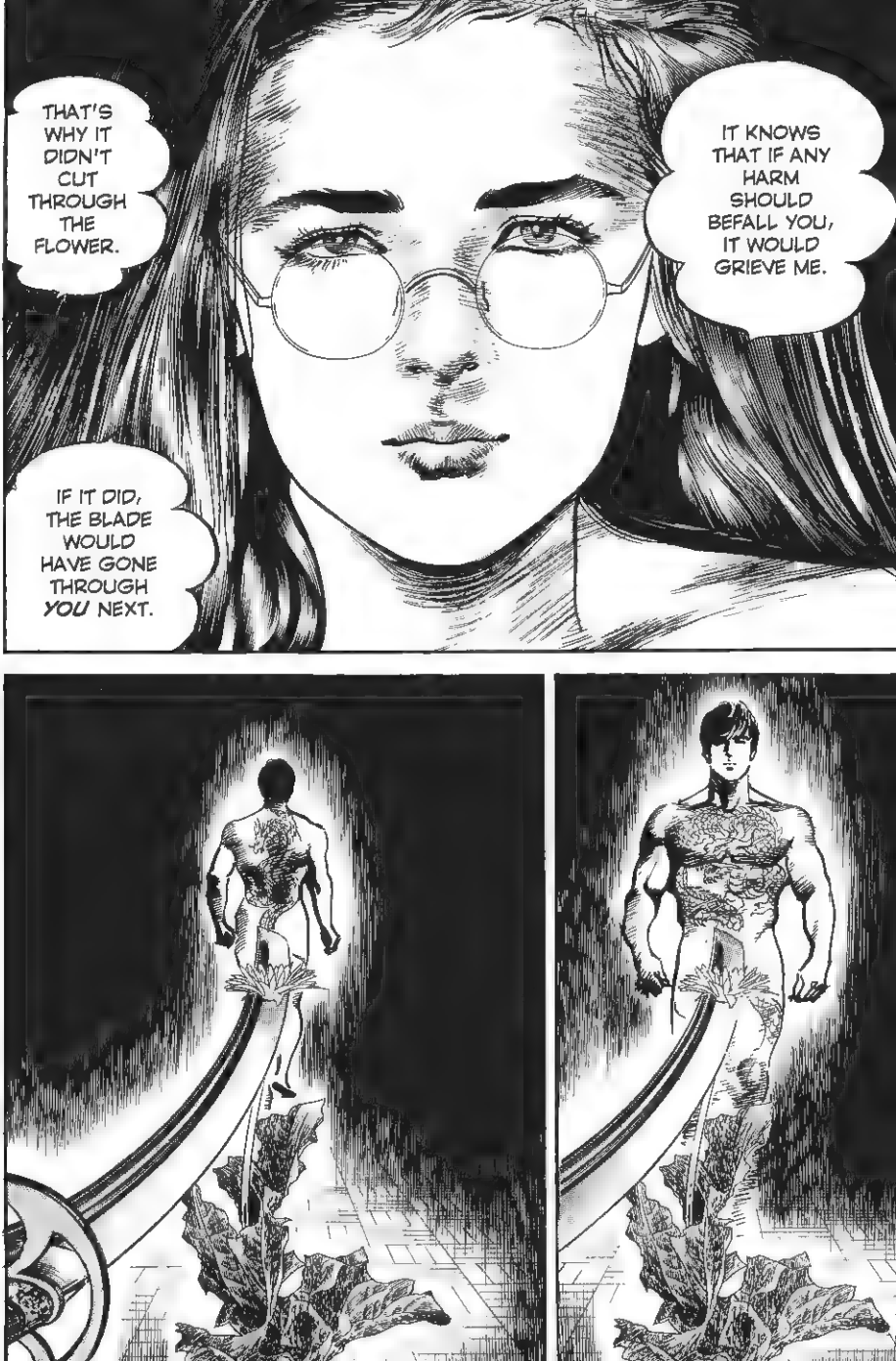


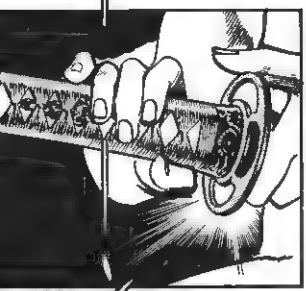


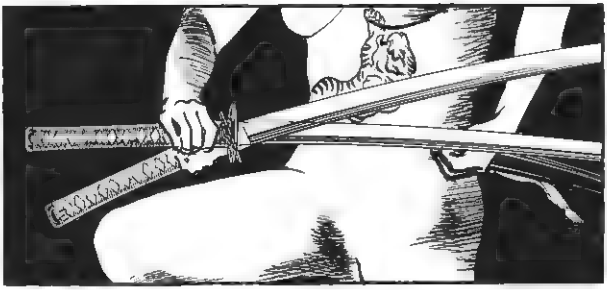
DAR-
LING!
<BIG
BROTHER
!!?
THIS IS
MR. NITTA
AND
TOHGOKU
OSHU.
LET ME
INTRO-
DUCE
YOU TO
OUR
GUESTS.
WHAT
THE HECK
HAP-
PENED
TO YA,
BIG
BRO?
AND
MRS.
KIMIE
HANA-
DA.



THEN IT HAS ACKNOWL-EDGED YOU AS ITS MASTER.
IT WASN'T ME. IT WAS MURAMASA ITSELF THAT DID IT.
<INCRED-IBLE!>
...AS MY HUSBAND.
IT ALSO ACKNOWL-EDGES YOU...


THAT'S WHY IT DIDN'T CUT THROUGH THE FLOWER.
IT KNOWS THAT IF ANY HARM SHOULD BEFALL YOU, IT WOULD GRIEVE ME.
IF IT DID, THE BLADE WOULD HAVE GONE THROUGH *YOU* NEXT.



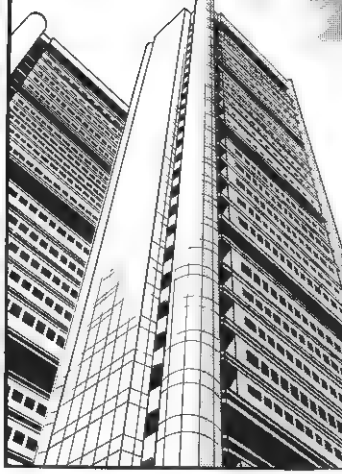


FX CHINKk

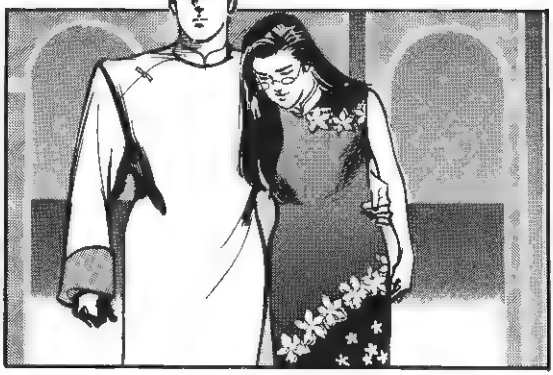
AHH!
AHH!
AAAHHHH!

D...
DARLING
...!

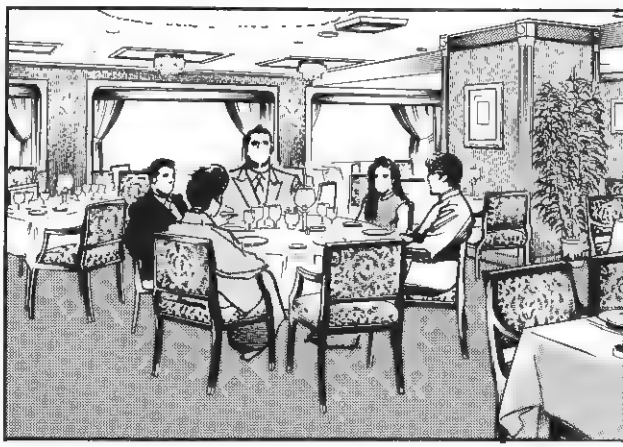
*FX CREAK CREAK
*FX CREAK CREAK CREAK
KIMIE! WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?! YOU'RE HARDLY MOVING!!
*FX HRR
YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT WHEN IT HAPPENS!!
HOW'S THAT SUPPOSED TO TURN ME ON?!
IF HU QING LAN FIGURES US OUT, WE'RE DEAD!!
I'M... NOTHING COMPARED TO HER...
SO BEAUTIFUL... THAT BEAUTY... OF COURSE, FREEMAN DESERVES SUCH A WOMAN...



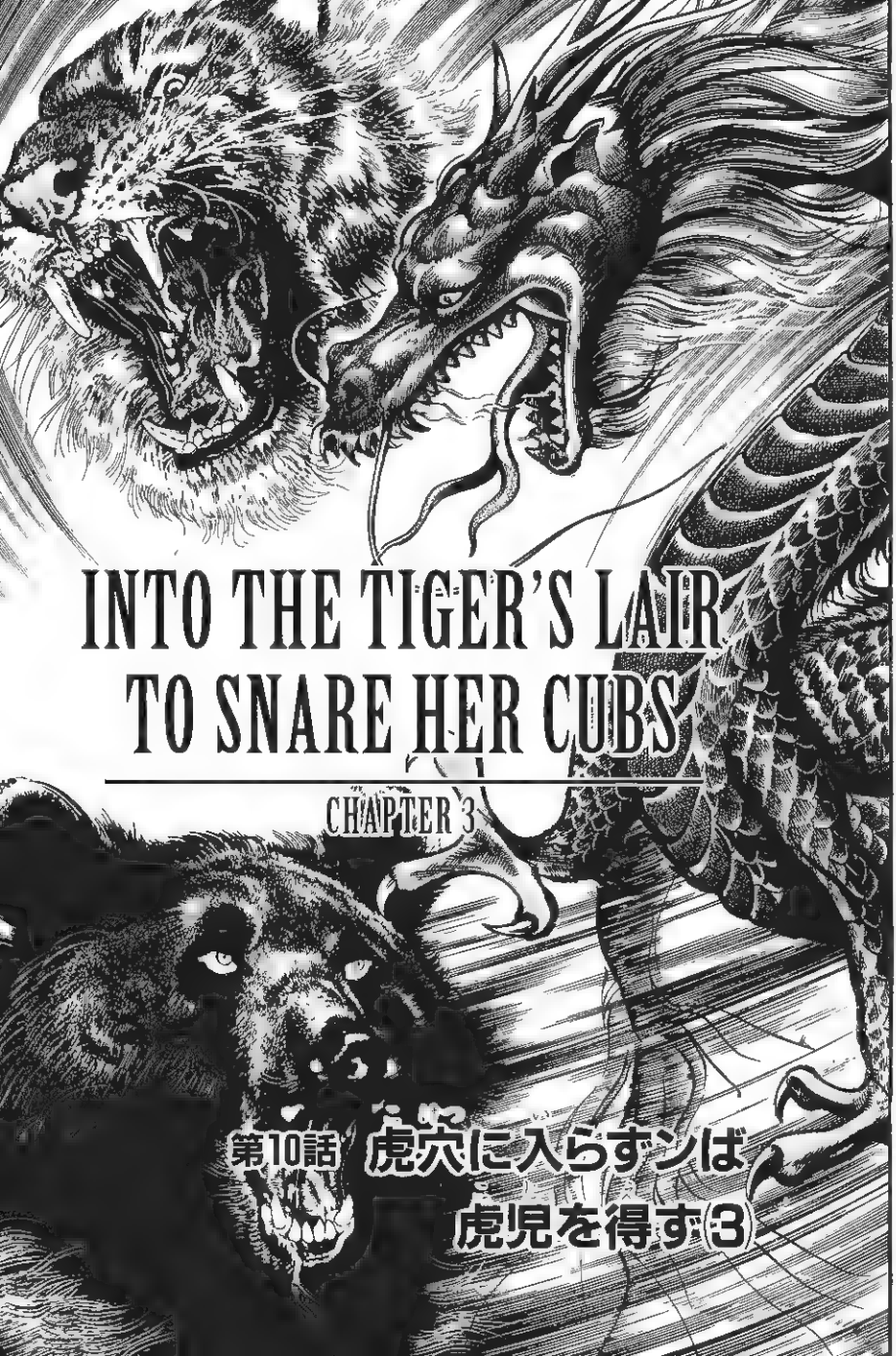
PHEW! WE'VE STILL GOT OUR NECK'S...



OUR IMPOSTER EVEN MANAGED TO SATISFY HU QING LAN! HEH HEH HEH HEH...



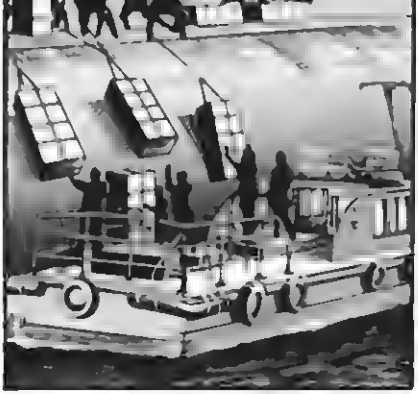
COME JOIN US ANYTIME.
WE'RE ALL CLEAR. HE PULLED OFF A PERFECT PERFORMANCE. HE HAS A TOTAL HOLD OVER THE WIFE AND THE ORGANIZATION!
I SEE! I SEE! HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH...
BWAH-HAHAHA HAHAHA!

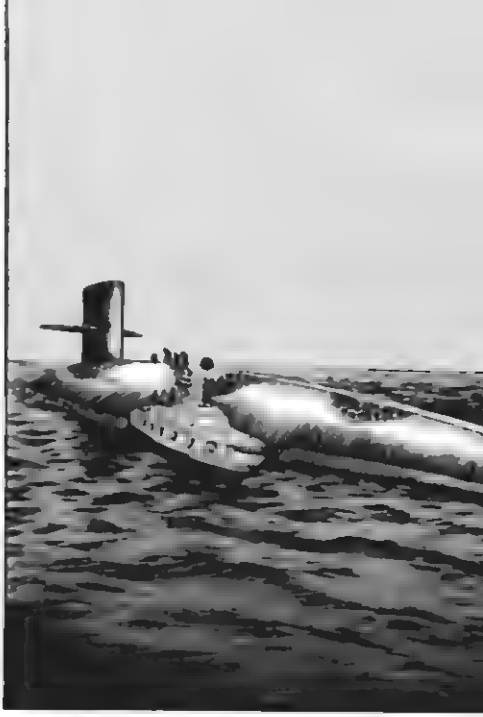


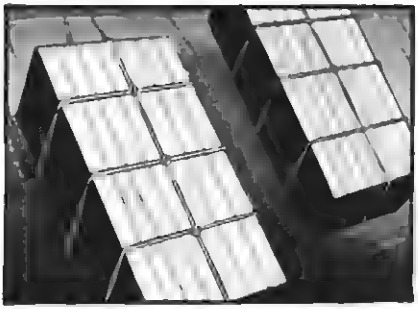
INTO THE TIGER'S LAIR TO SNARE HER CUBS

CHAPTER 3

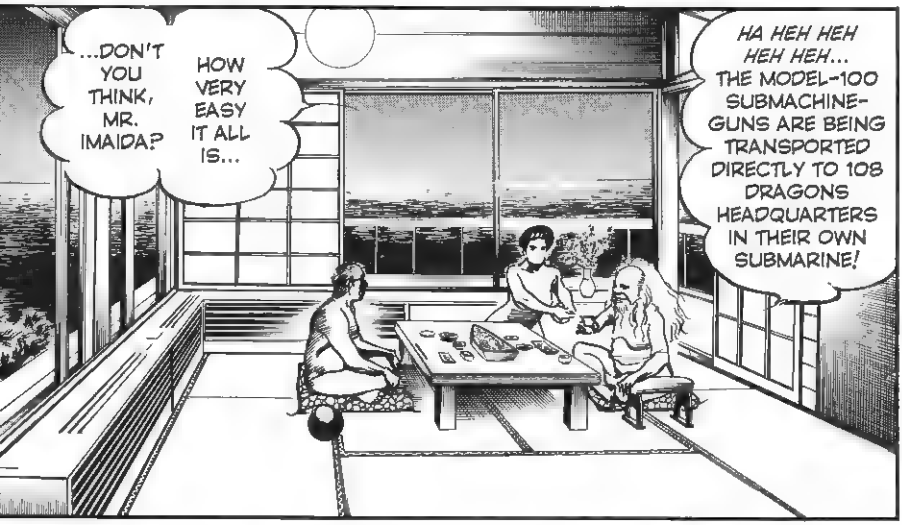
第10話 虎穴に入らずンば虎児を得ず3



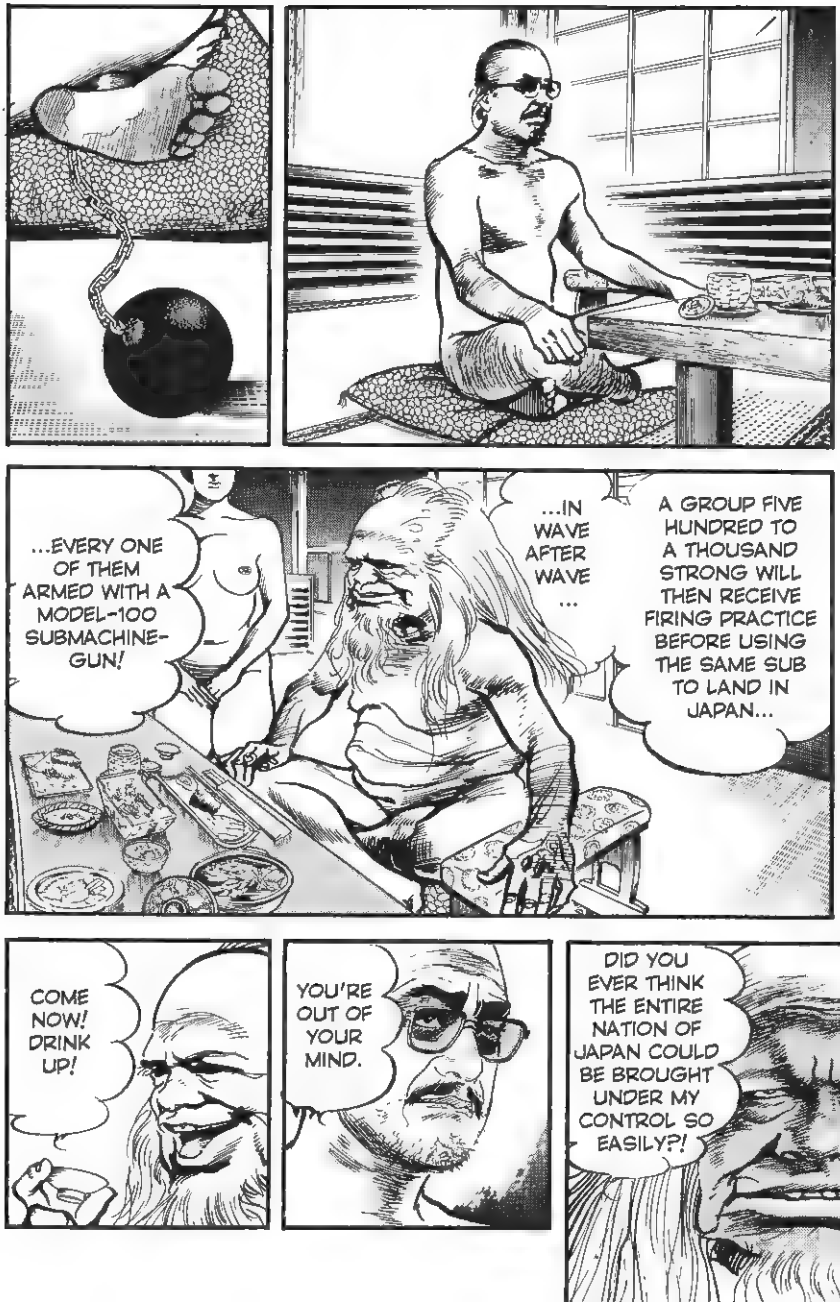




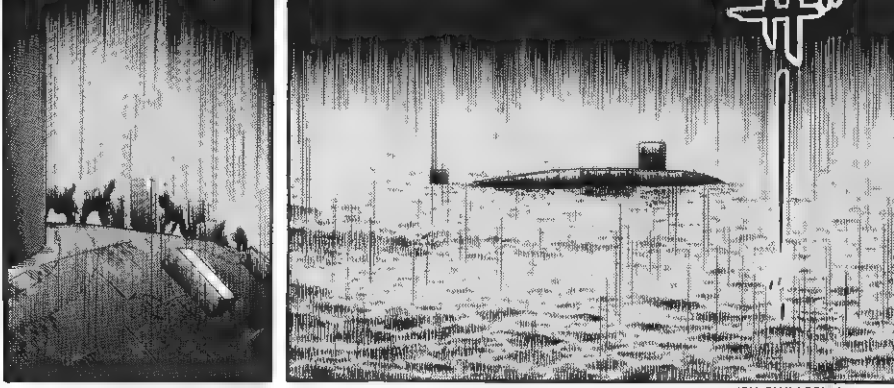
*FX THRM THRM THRM THRM


...DON'T YOU THINK, MR. IMAIDA?
HOW VERY EASY IT ALL IS...
HA HEH HEH HEH HEH... THE MODEL-100 SUBMACHINE-GUNS ARE BEING TRANSPORTED DIRECTLY TO 108 DRAGONS HEADQUARTERS IN THEIR OWN SUBMARINE!

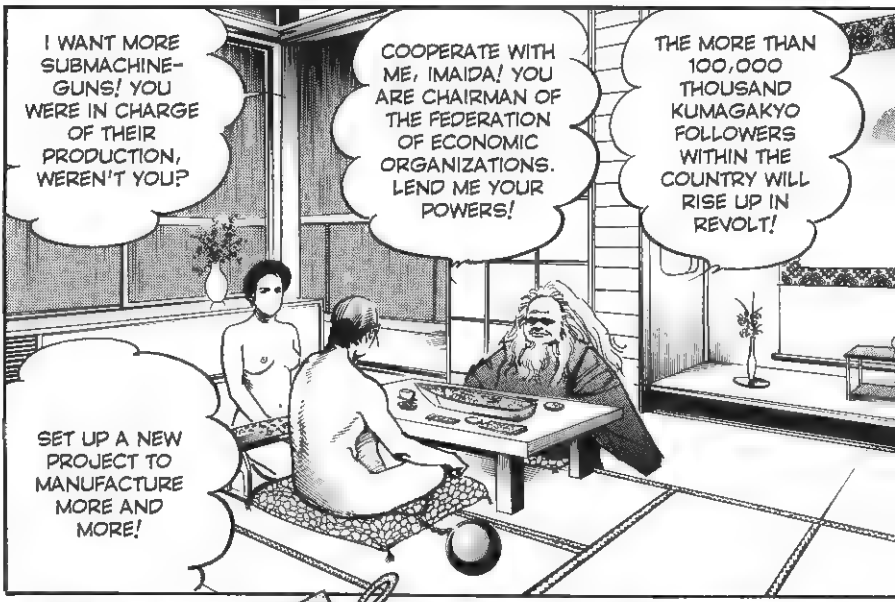
*FX SLRP!


A GROUP FIVE HUNDRED TO A THOUSAND STRONG WILL THEN RECEIVE FIRING PRACTICE BEFORE USING THE SAME SUB TO LAND IN JAPAN...
...IN WAVE AFTER WAVE ...
...EVERY ONE OF THEM ARMED WITH A MODEL-100 SUBMACHINE-GUN!
DID YOU EVER THINK THE ENTIRE NATION OF JAPAN COULD BE BROUGHT UNDER MY CONTROL SO EASILY?!
YOU'RE OUT OF YOUR MIND.
COME NOW! DRINK UP!

AYA! WON'T YOU SERVE HIM SOME SAKE?
*FX HO-HEH HEH HEH HEH

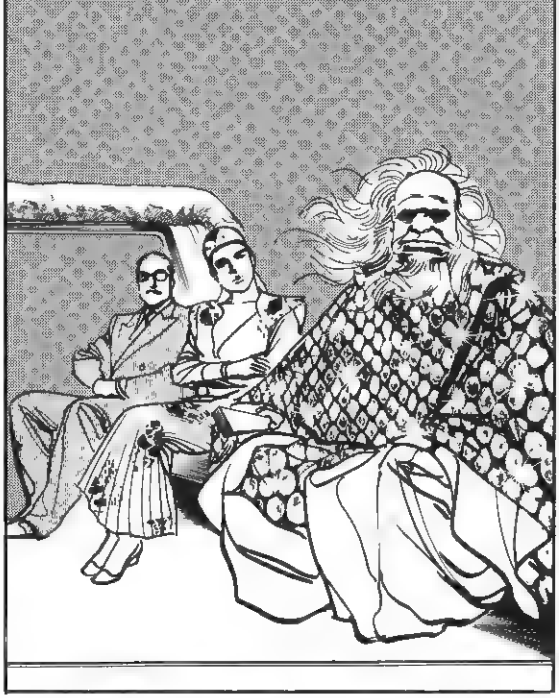


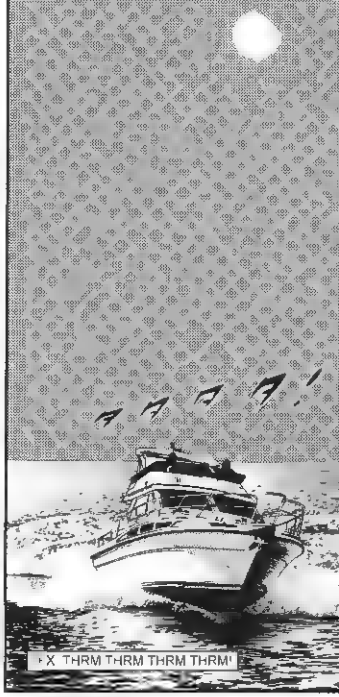
*FX FWAASSHH


I WANT MORE SUBMACHINE-GUNS! YOU WERE IN CHARGE OF THEIR PRODUCTION, WEREN'T YOU?
COOPERATE WITH ME, IMAIDA! YOU ARE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERATION OF ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS. LEND ME YOUR POWERS!
THE MORE THAN 100,000 THOUSAND KUMAGAKYO FOLLOWERS WITHIN THE COUNTRY WILL RISE UP IN REVOLT!
SET UP A NEW PROJECT TO MANUFACTURE MORE AND MORE!

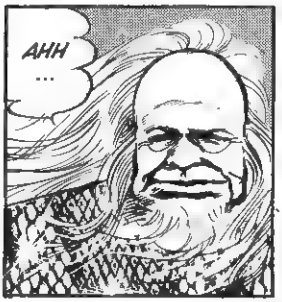
*FX PTOO

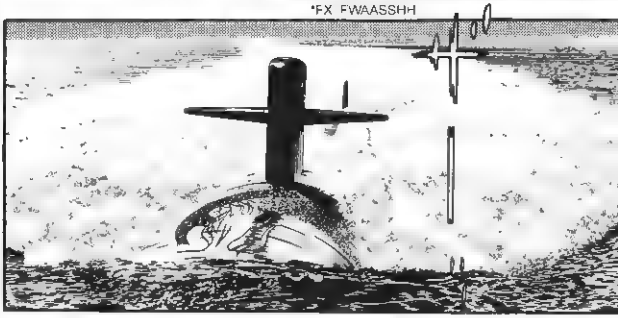
I THOUGHT JAPAN MIGHT SOMEDAY FIND THEM USEFUL!
SO WHY DID YOU KEEP THOSE THOUSAND SUBMACHINE-GUNS IN HIDING UNTIL NOW IN THE FIRST PLACE?
HURRY UP AND KILL ME!!
*FX WHUMP
YOU STINK! YOU STINK OF BLOOD!!
EXACTLY !!
THAT SOMEDAY IS NOW!!
*FX HO HEH HEH
*FX NGH
FX HRR



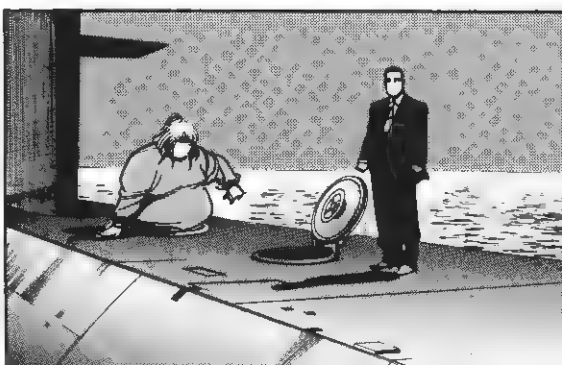


*FX FWAASSHH

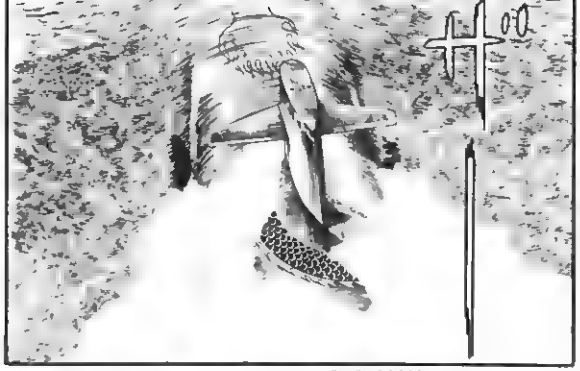




*FX SMILE

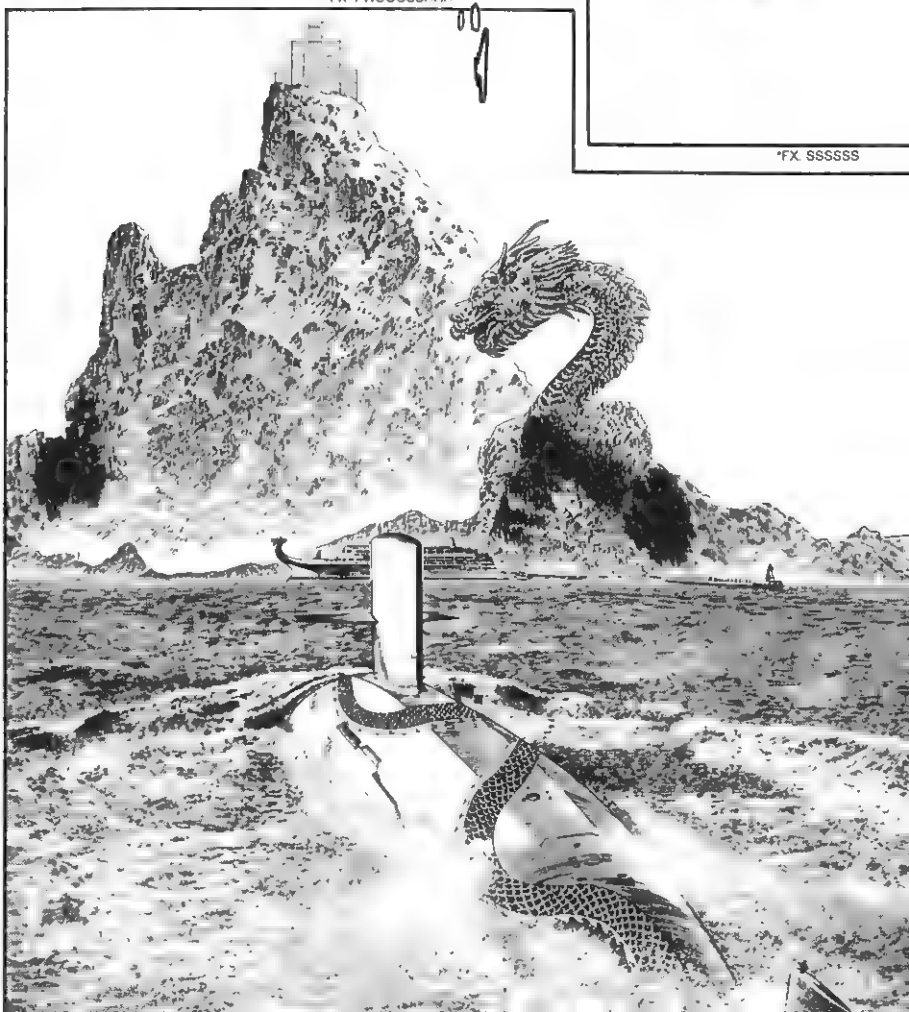


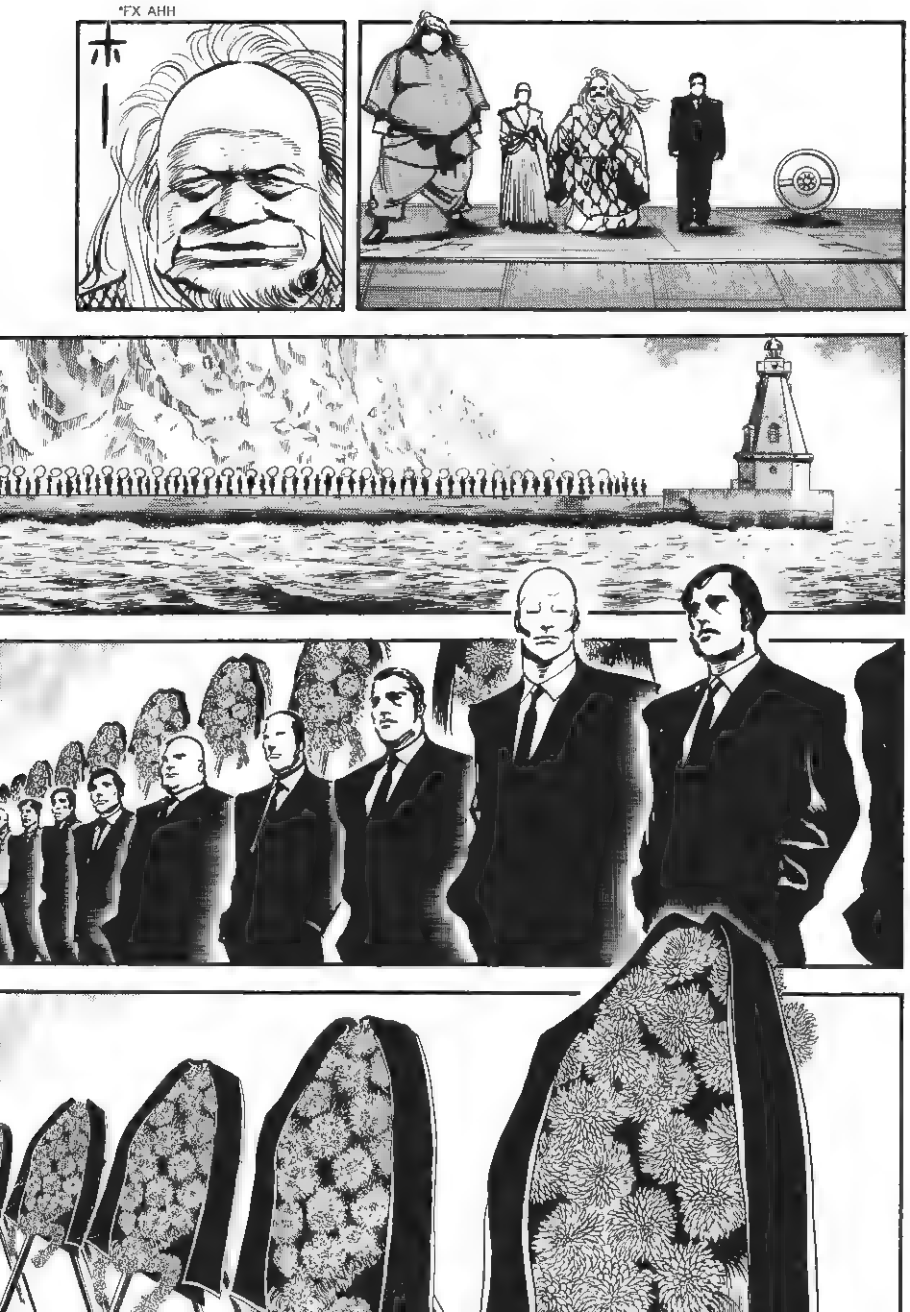
I CAME TO WELCOME YOU, GRAMPA!
HM! AND WHO IS THIS GIGANTIC WOMAN?!
I SEE! I SEE! THANK YOU! HA HEH HEH HEH HEH!
SHE'S LONG TAI YANG'S YOUNGER SISTER-- BAI YA SHAN.
THAT'S RIGHT.
DID LONG TAI YANG TELL YOU TO CALL ME GRAM-PA?



*FX. FWOOOSSHHH

*FX. SSSSSS



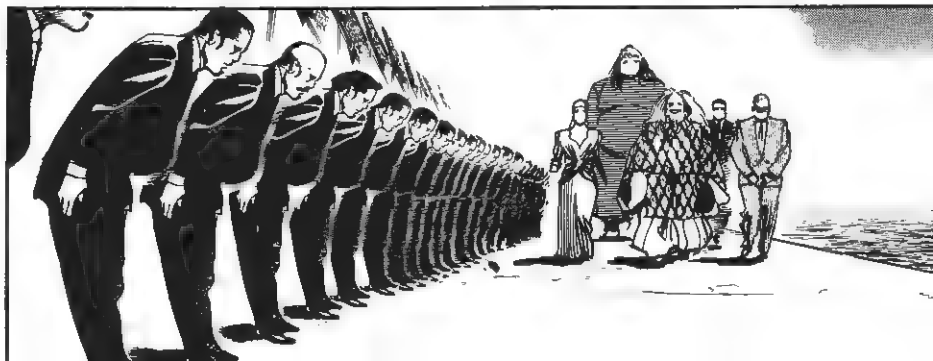

*FX AHH

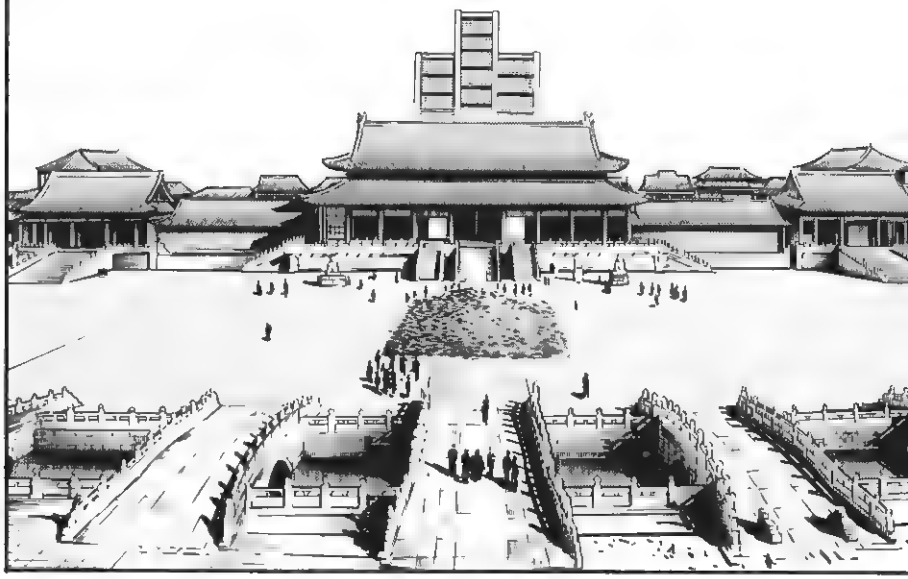
MR. LONG...

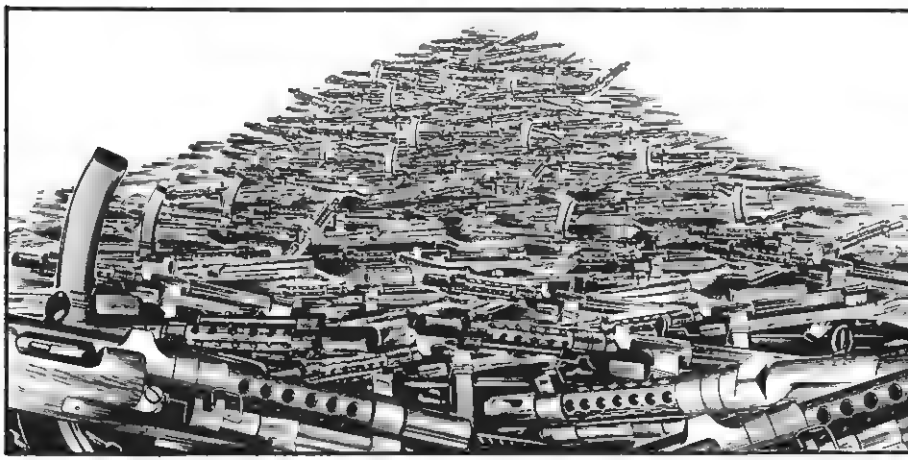
WELCOME, MASTER NAIJI KUMAGA AND MR. IMAIDA.
A-HA!

THIS WAY, PLEASE. WELCOME TO THE HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE 108 DRAGONS.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY A WORD. I UNDER-STAND COM-PLETELY.

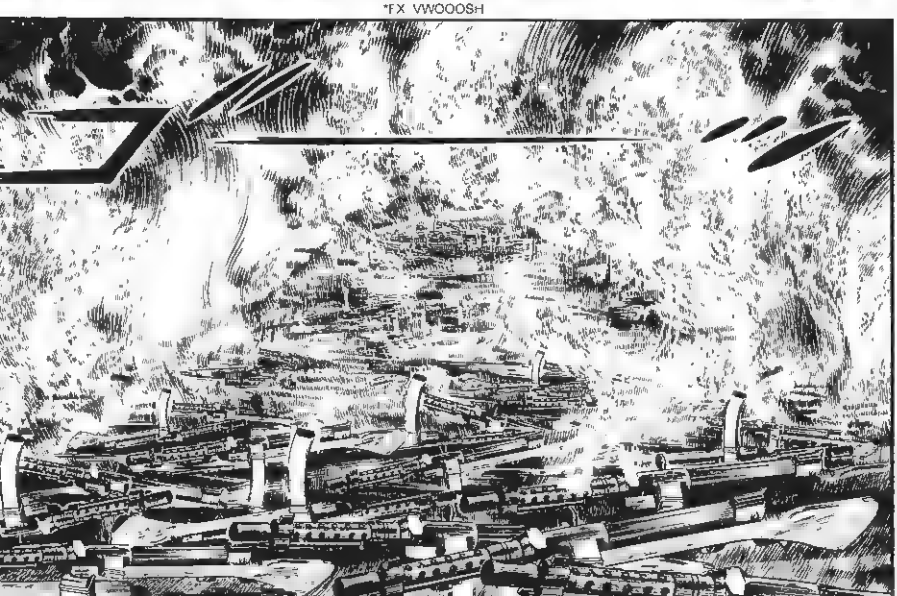






*FX SHFF

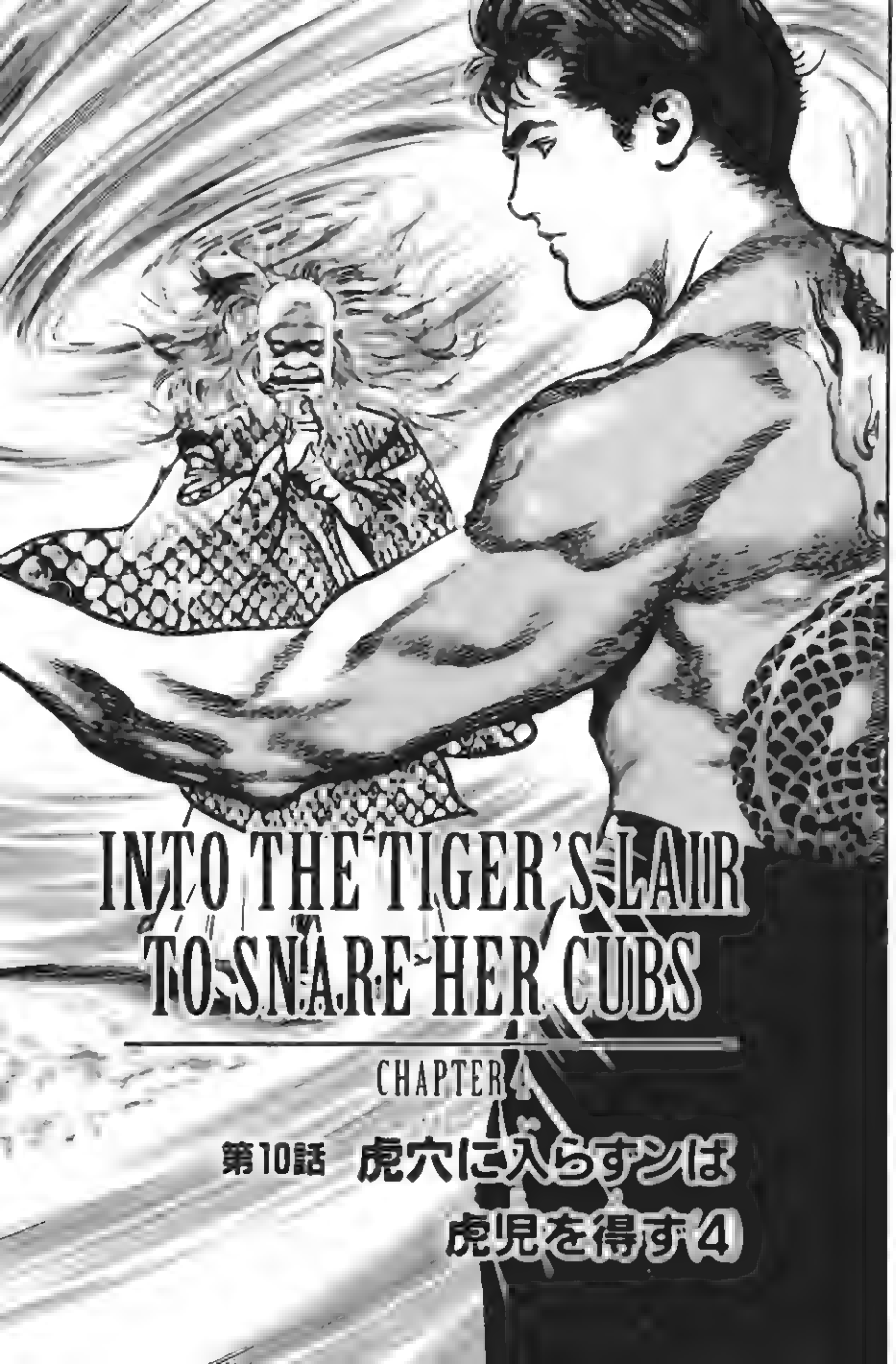
*FX VWOOOSH



WH-WHY, YOU--!!
Y-YOU BETRAYED ME!!
*FX SHFF
I AM CRYING FREEMAN.

*FX. SSKKKRRR

WEL-
COME,
MASTER
NAIJI
KUMAGA.
ONE
MUST
ENTER
THE
TIGER'S
LAIR TO
SNARE
HER
CUBS,
THEY
SAY...
IT...
IT
CAN'T
BE...
*FX SHFF



INTO THE TIGER'S LAIR TO SNARE HER CUBS

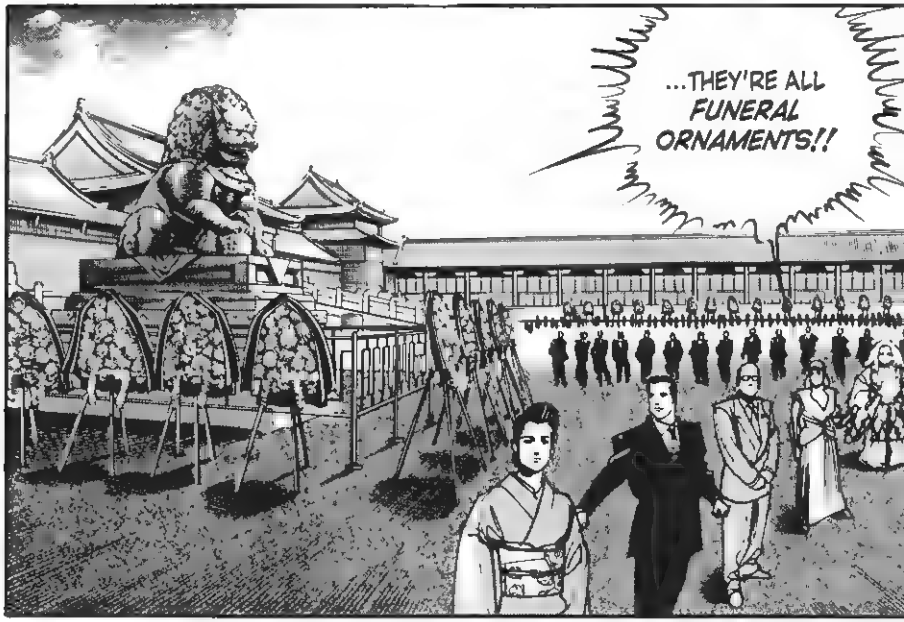
CHAPTER 4

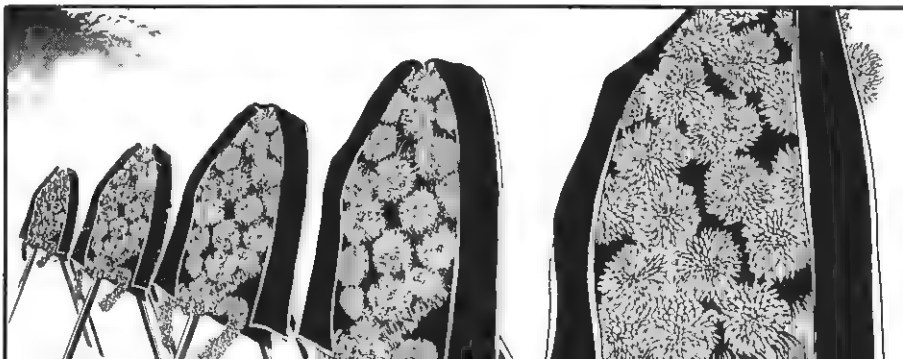
第10話　虎穴に入らずんば虎児を得ず4

S-SO THAT WAS NUMBER TWO?!
SO YOU KILLED NUMBER TWO! IS THAT IT?
TOH-GOKU OSHU KILLED HIM FOR ME.
*FX SPJTCH
BUT H-HOW DID YOU SWITCH PLACES?!
*FX WHA ?
C-COULD KIMIE HAVE...?!

GRRAAH !!
*FX HRRR!
FOR TWO THOUSAND YEARS THE 108 DRAGONS HAVE PASSED DOWN KNOWLEDGE OF HUNDREDS OF MEDICINAL HERBS THAT CAN ACT AS COUNTER-POISONS.
YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT I ADMINISTER ALL OF THEM ON MYSELF SO THAT NO POISON CAN WORK AGAINST ME.
B- BUT STILL ...
...WE GAVE YOU SOPORIFICS AND DRUGS TO FORCE UNCONSCIOUS ACTS!

THE DECO-
RATIONS
FOR OUR
WELCOME
...
L-
LOOK
...

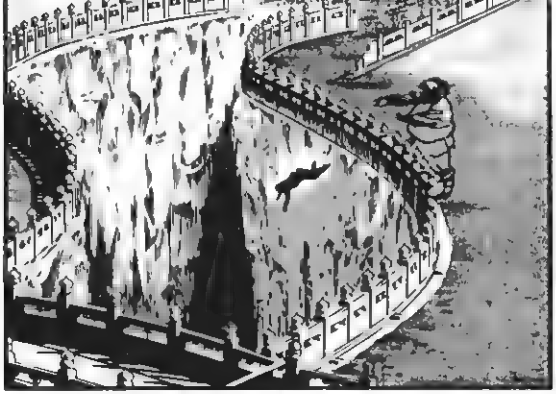

...THEY'RE ALL
FUNERAL
ORNAMENTS!!

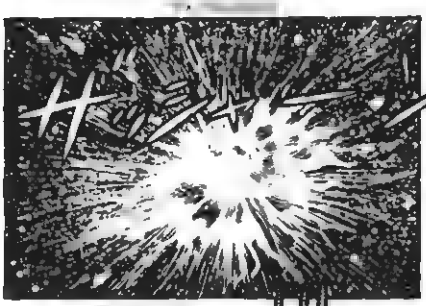


*FX SHFF
K-KIMIE!! DID YOU REALLY SELL US OUT, YOU BITCH?!?
*FX CLICK CLICK
KIMIE!!
*FX SHFF SHFF

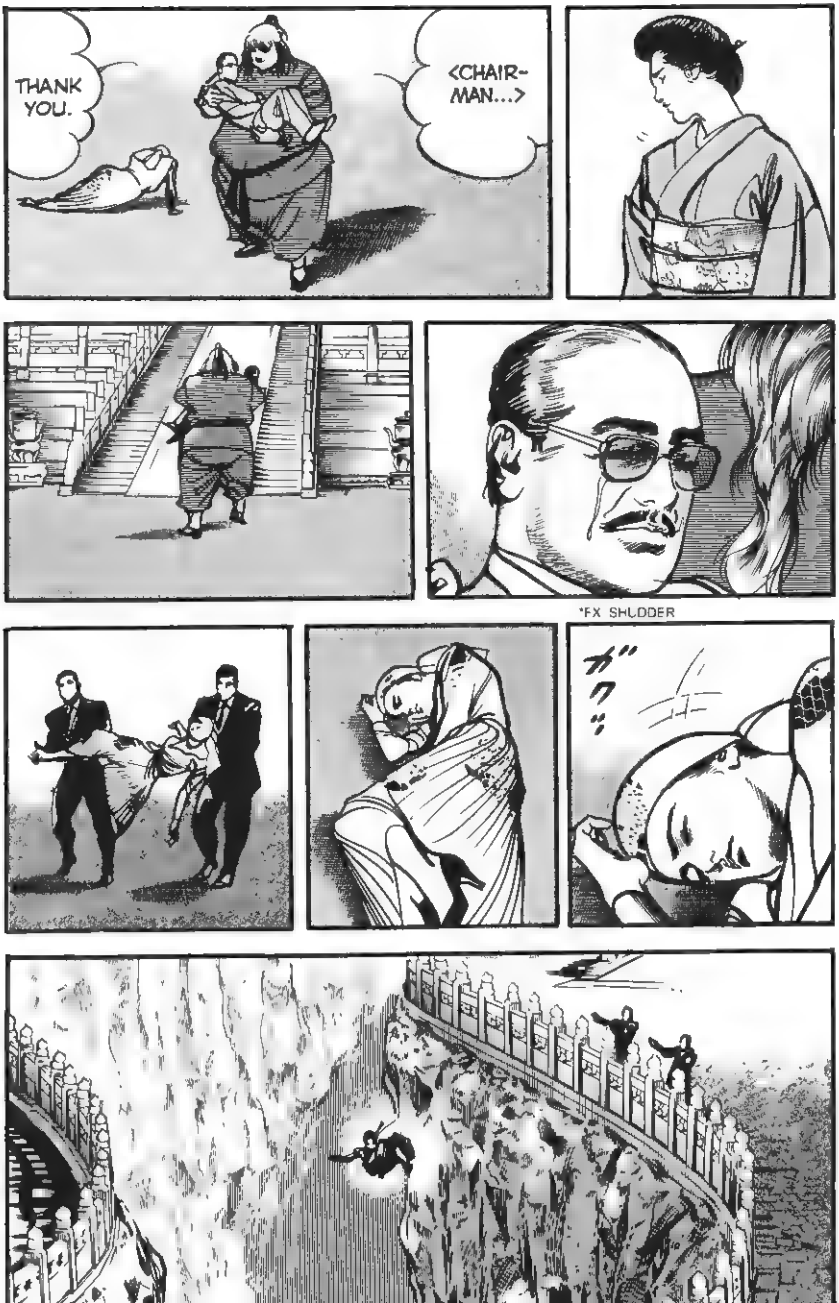
BRING CHAIR-MAN IMAIDA INSIDE.
S-SAVE US...
<YES, SIR!>
*FX: WHUMP
AND YOU CALL YOUR-SELF A POLICE OFFICER?!
TAKE US BACK TO JAPAN OR THIS SON-OF-A-BITCH'S LIFE IS OVER!!
SHIT! NOW WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?!

*FX WHACK
*FX HEE-YAAA
*FX SPTCH
YEEARGH !!





*FX F-WOOOSH

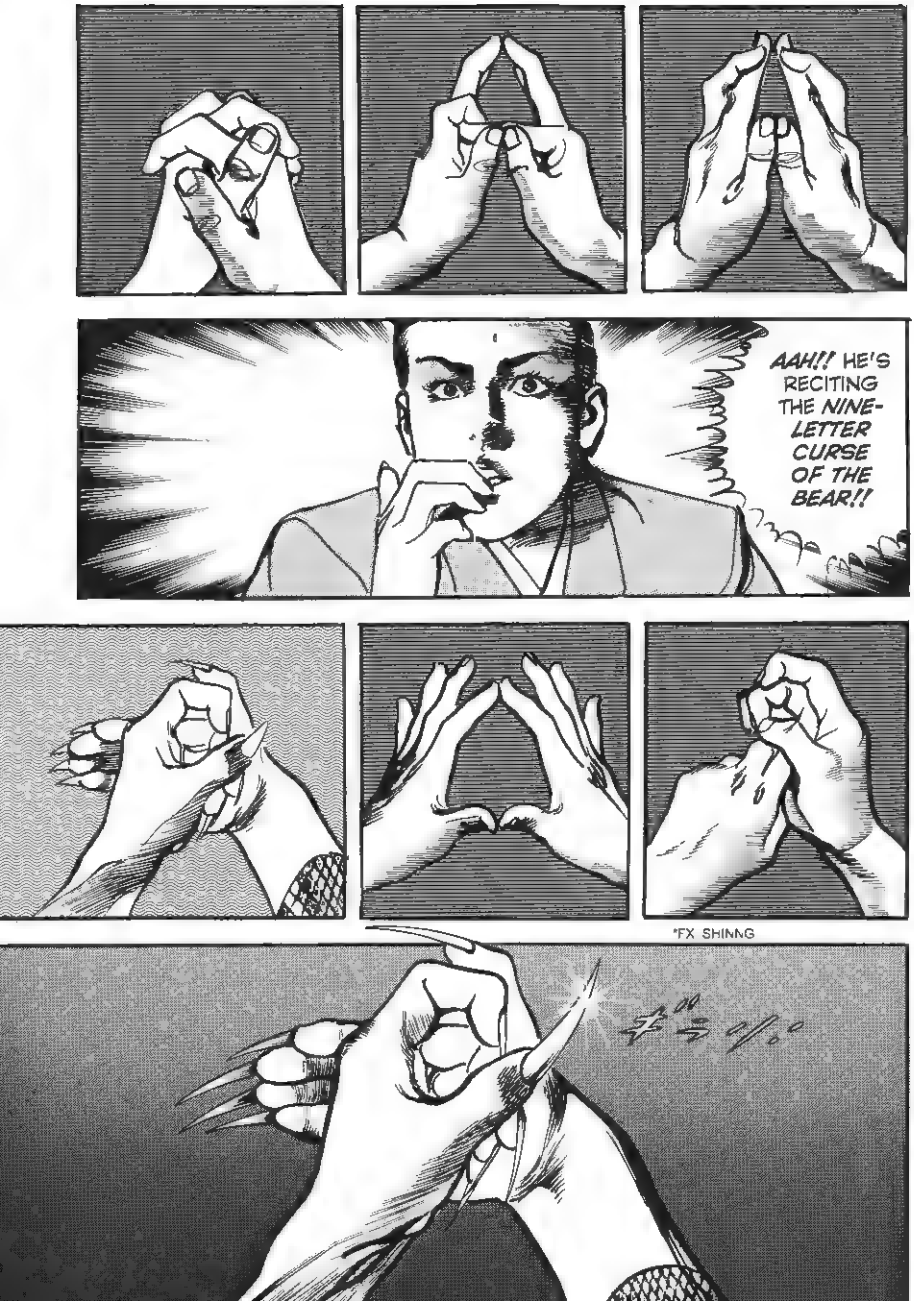

THANK YOU.
<CHAIR-MAN...>
*FX SHUDDER
ガクッ

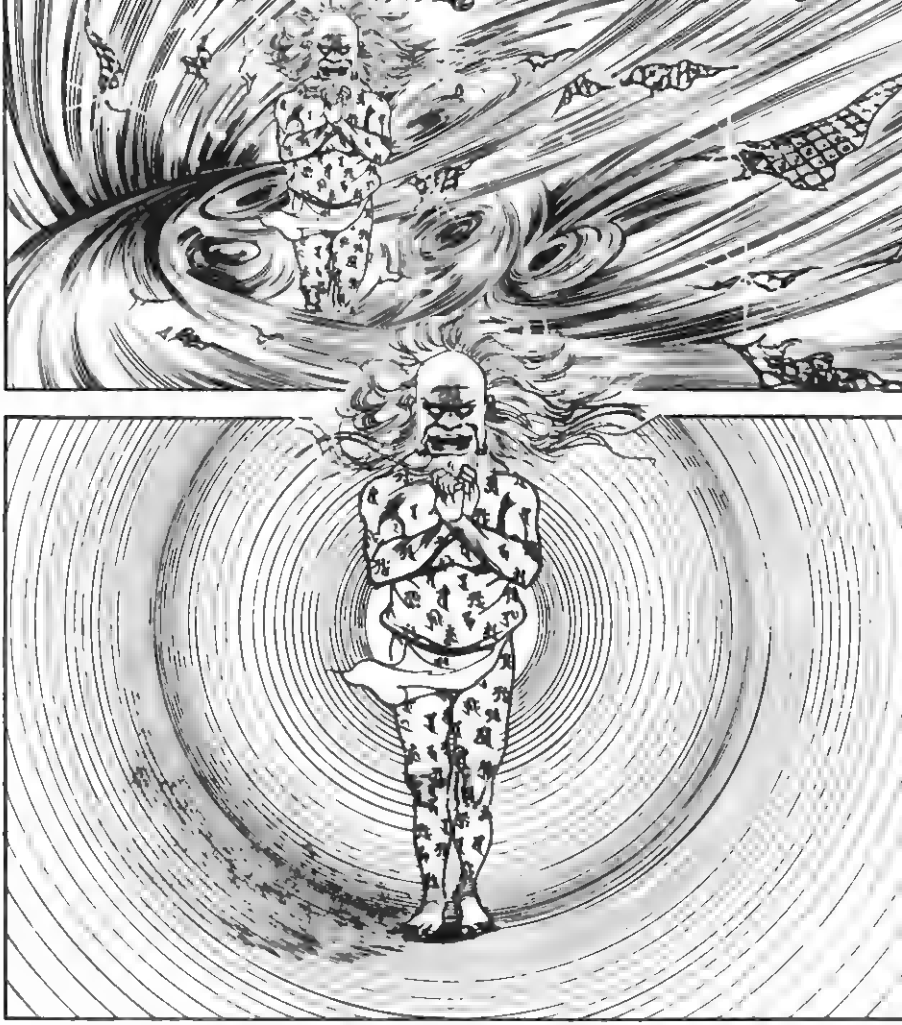
*FX AIEEEEE
*FX WHA ?!
*FX CHACK

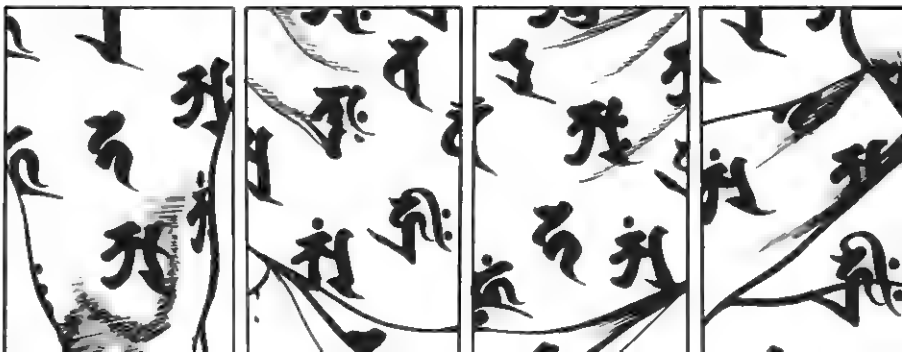
I WANT TO FIGHT FREEMAN ONE-ON-ONE!
OSHU!! SURELY YOU WON'T BETRAY ME, TOO!
I HAVE ALREADY FOUGHT YOU MANY TIMES...
THAT MAN WAS NOT PREPARED TO MEET DEATH. ALL I SAW IN HIS EYES WAS FEAR!
...THE SORROW OF MOURNING FOR THE DEATHS OF YOUR OPPONENTS.
...AND ALL I SEE IN YOUR EYES IS SORROW...
OSHU, WHEN YOU KILLED MY DOUBLE, YOU KNEW IT WAS A DOUBLE, DIDN'T YOU?

...WITHOUT ANY WEAPONS AND WITHOUT A SINGLE ALLY.
FREEMAN CAME RIGHT INTO THE HEART OF OUR ORGANIZATION EMPTY HANDED...
I FOUGHT HIM AS SUCH, BUT THOSE CONDITIONS WERE UNFAIR.
Y-YOU FOOL!!
OSHU! YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE KNOWING THIS?!
D-DOES YOUR STUPIDITY KNOW NO BOUNDS?!
SO WE CAN FIGHT UNDER FAIR CONDI-TIONS!!
THAT'S WHY I'VE COME HERE NOW.
HA HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA HA!
*FX GRIN

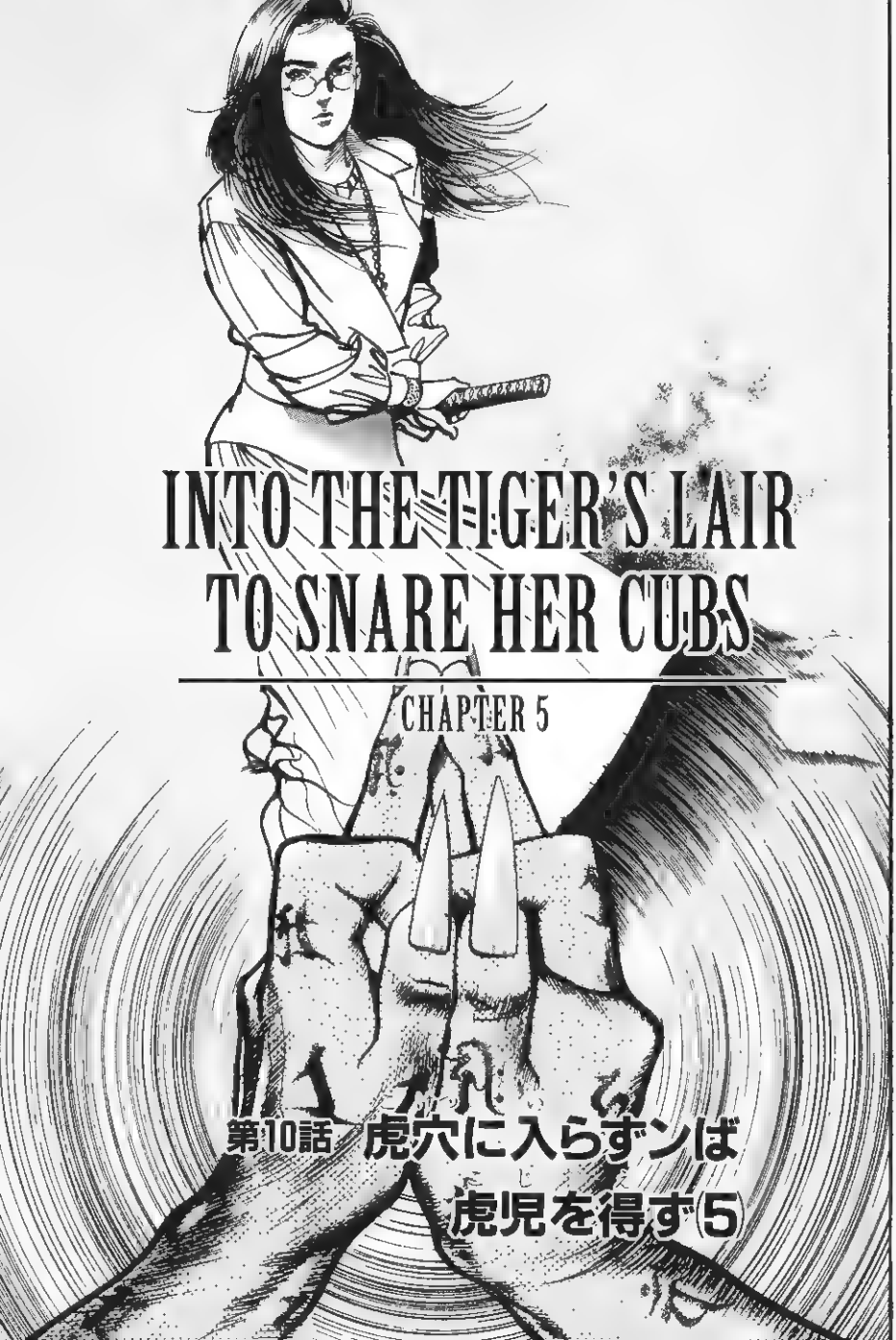
WELL DONE, FREEMAN.
INTO THE TIGER'S LAIR TO SNARE THE CUB, IS IT?
NOW I SEE!
THINGS WERE NOT SO SIMPLE AFTER ALL. I MUST REFLECT DEEPLY ON MY PLACE AS THE FOUNDER OF KUMAGAKYO.
*FX HUH?!
...KAI-JIN-RETSU-ZAI-ZENNNN!!
RIN-PYOH-TOH-SHA...
*FX SHFF


AAH!! HE'S RECITING THE NINE-LETTER CURSE OF THE BEAR!!
*FX SHINNG





*FX JHH UHH
H-HE'S HYPNOTIZING US!!

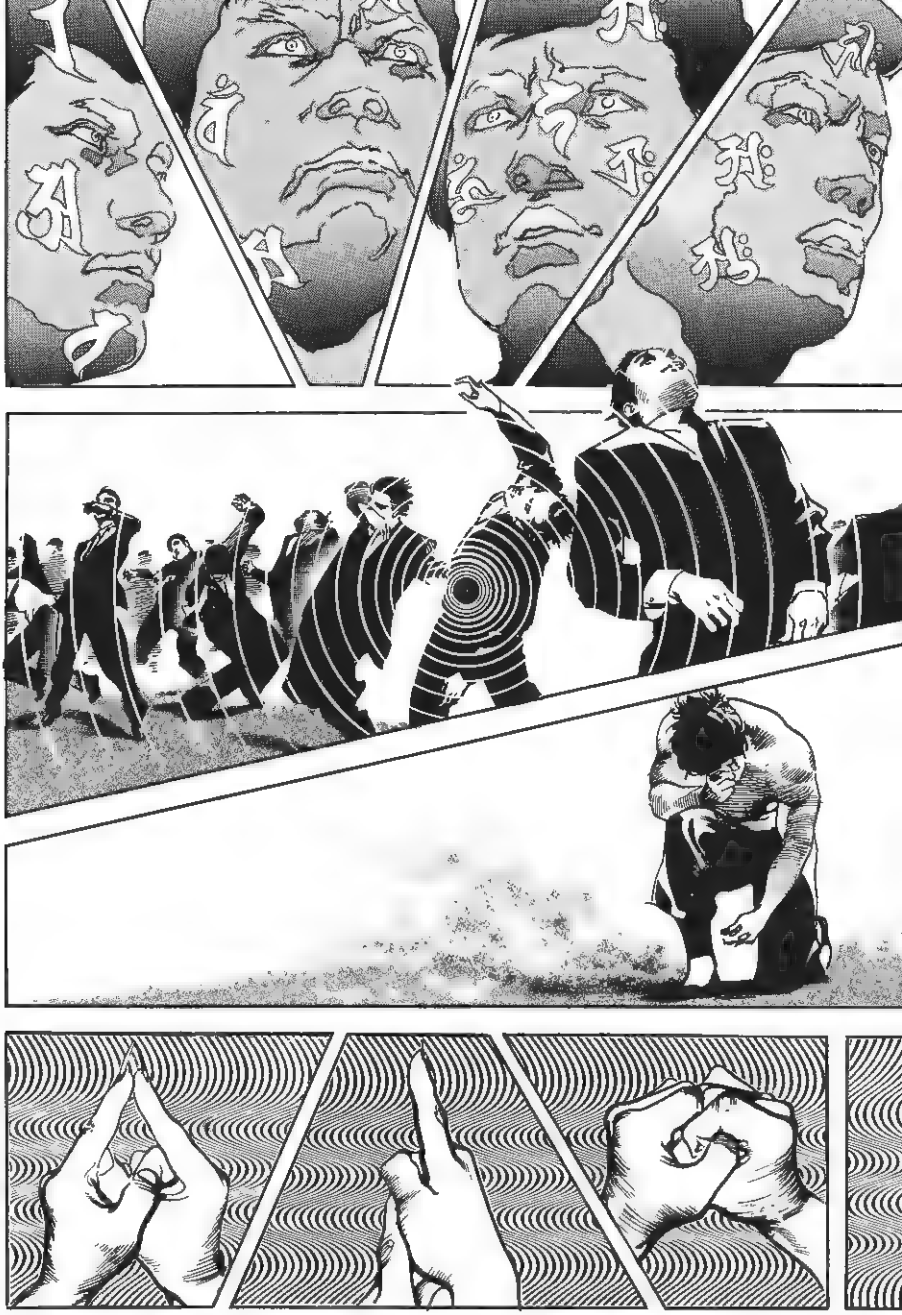


INTO THE TIGER'S LAIR TO SNARE HER CUBS

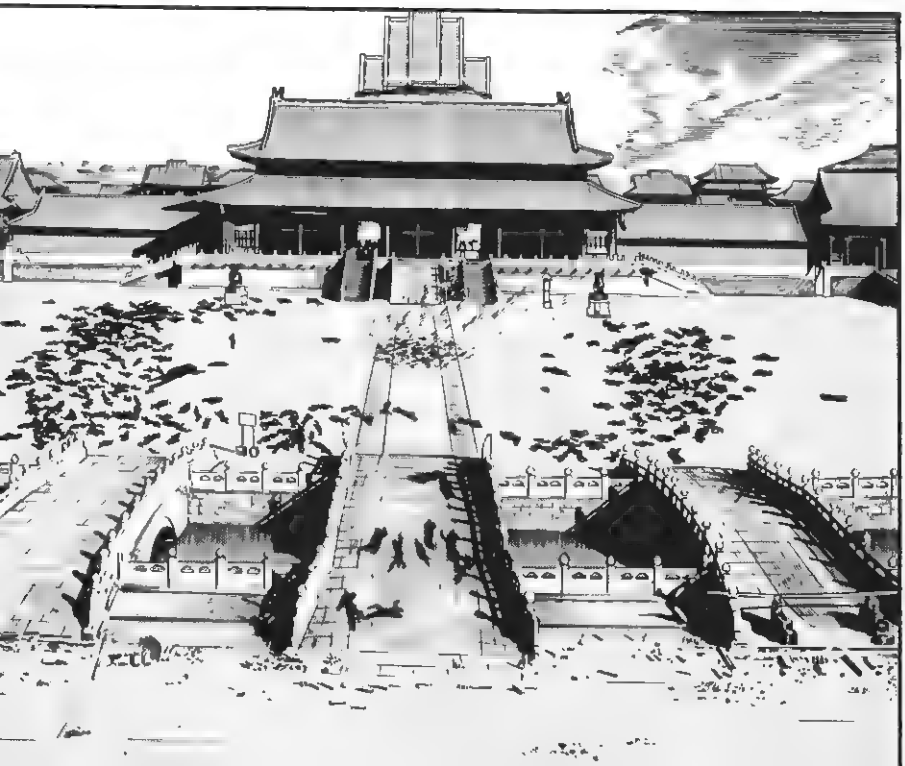
CHAPTER 5

第10話　虎穴に入らずんば虎児を得ず⑤

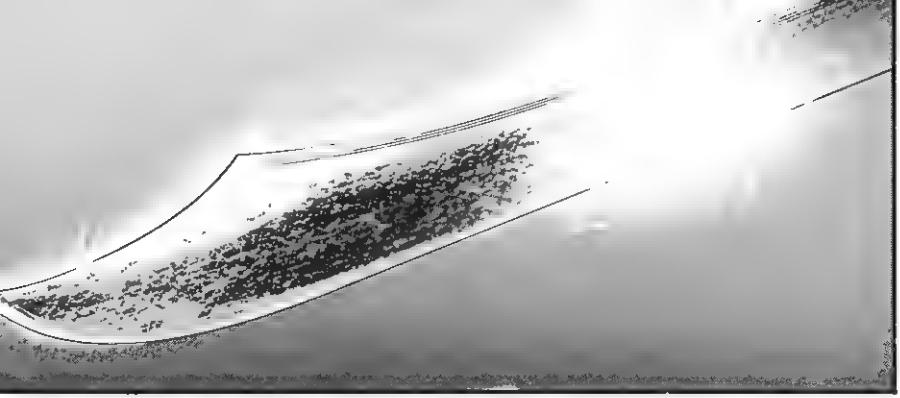
...JIN-
RETSU-
ZAI-
ZEN!!
RIN-
PYOH-
TOH-
SHA-
KAI...



...JIN-
RETSU-
ZAI-
ZEN!!
RIN-
PYOH-
TOH-
SHA-
KAI...



RIN-PYOH-
TOH-SHA-
KAI-JIN-
RETSU-ZAI-
ZEN!!
*FX: GR-N

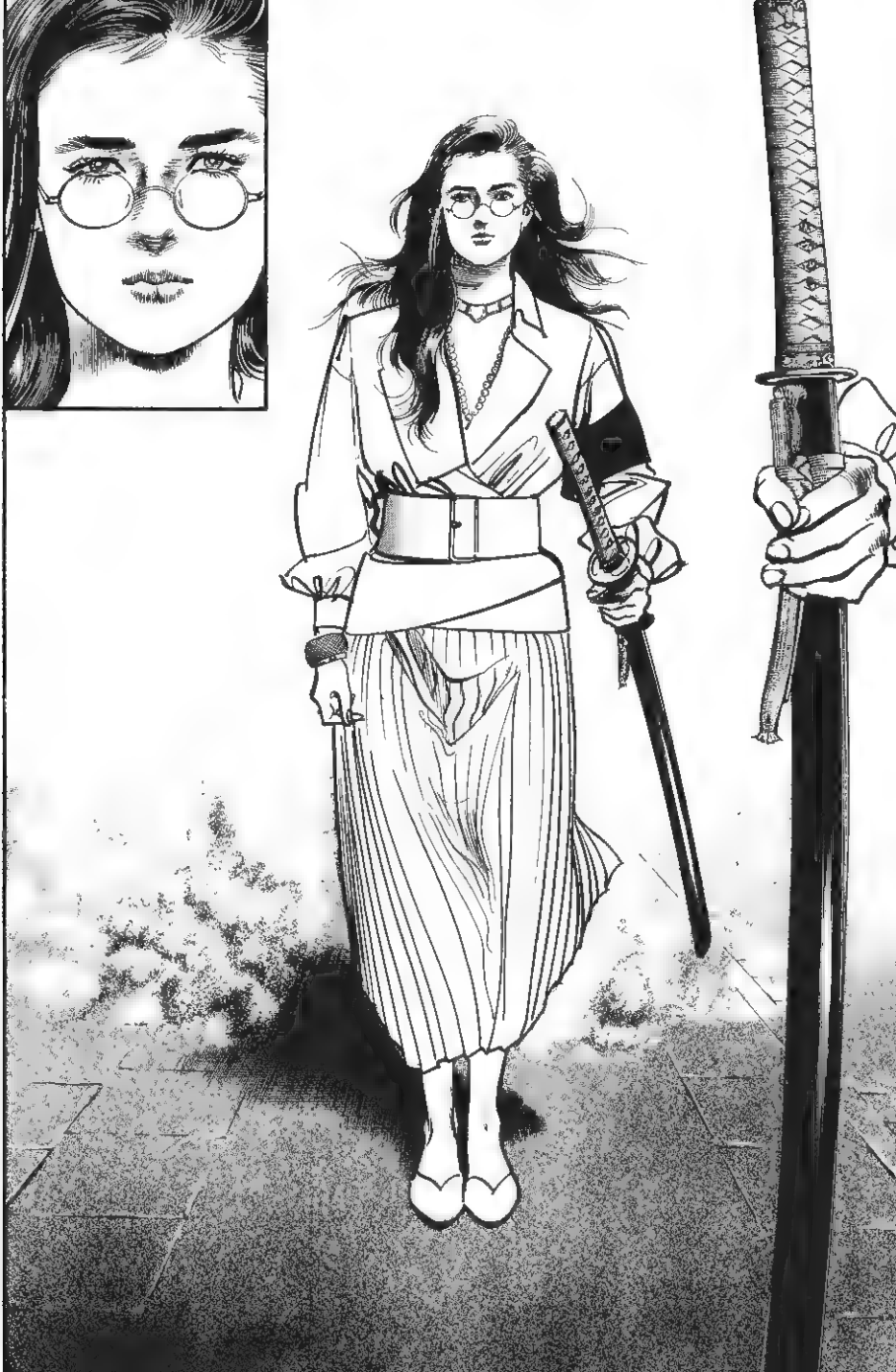


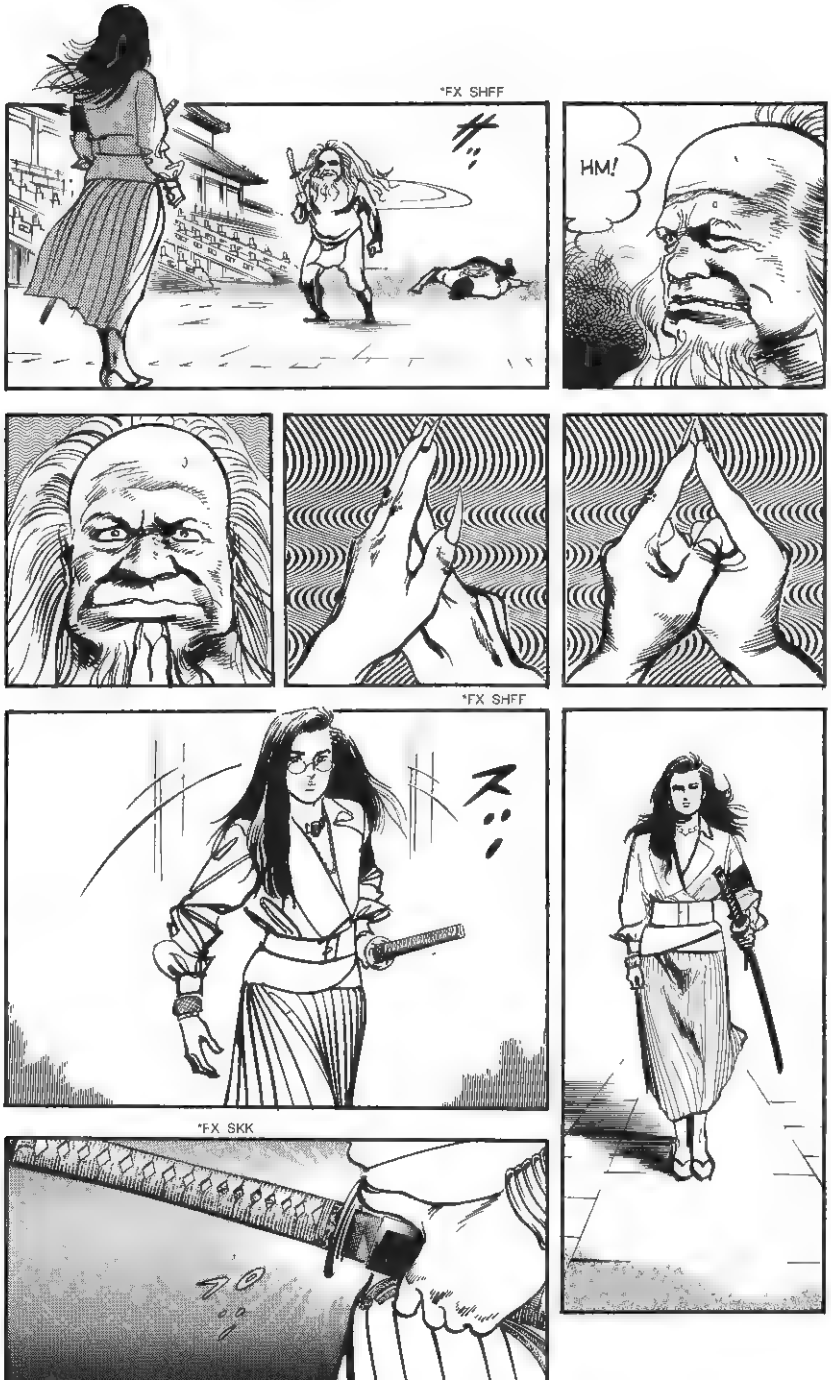
*FX WHSSH

*FX WHUP WHUP

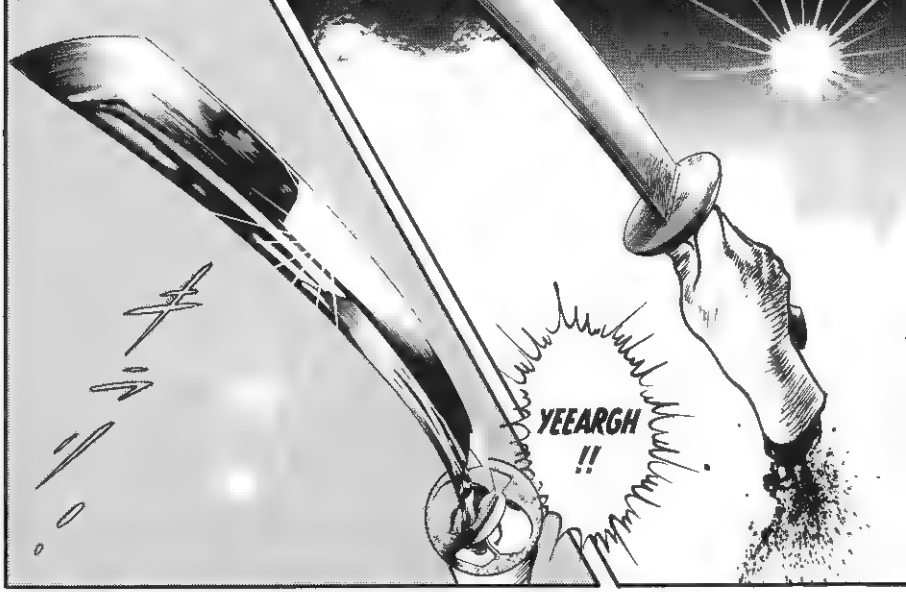
RIN-PYOH-TOH-SHA-KAI-JIN-RETSU-ZAI-ZEN!!

*FX HUH?

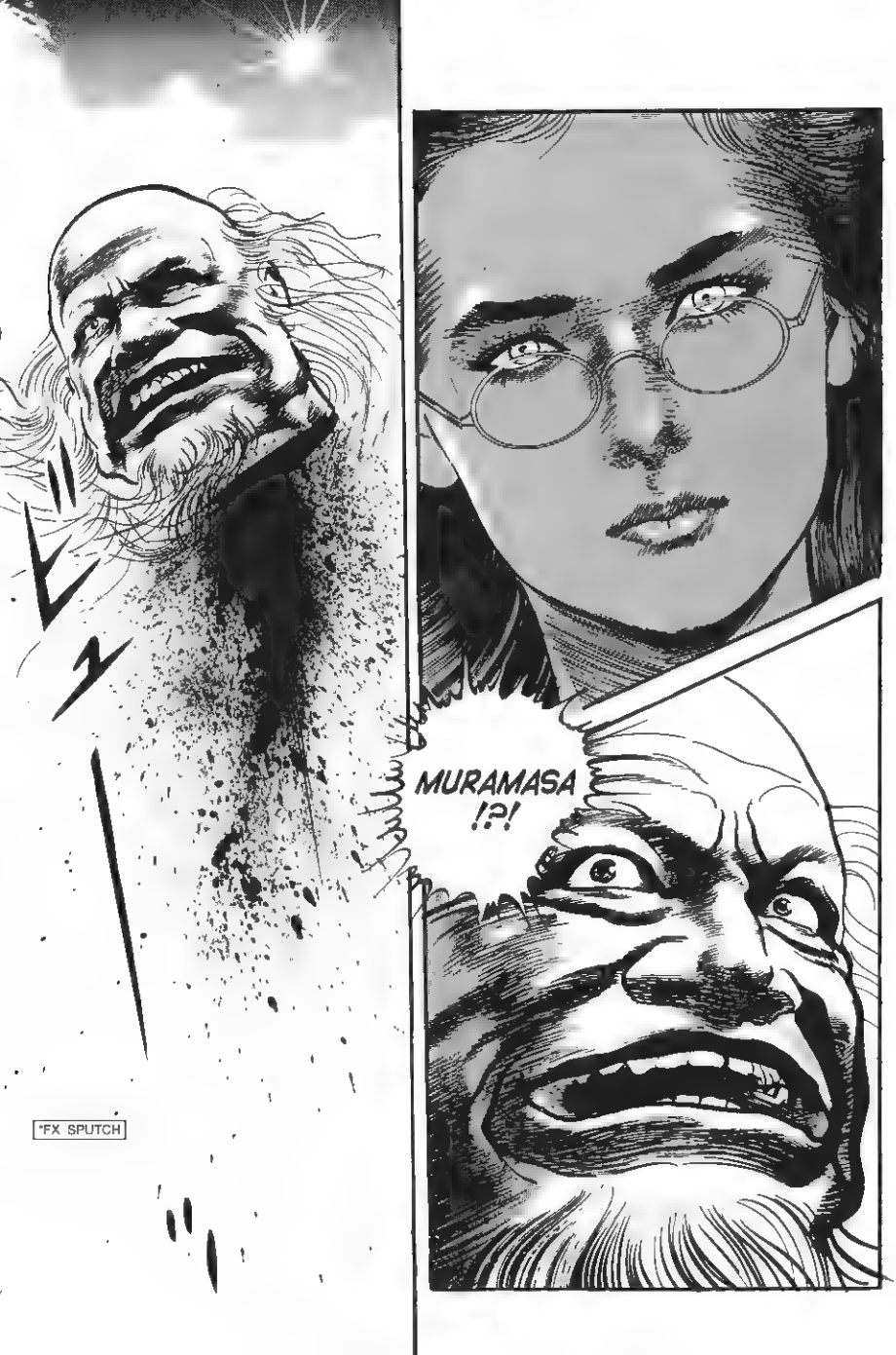



*FX SHFF
HM!
*FX SHFF
*FX SKK

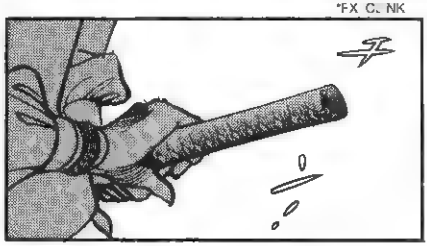
GRRAAHHH!!

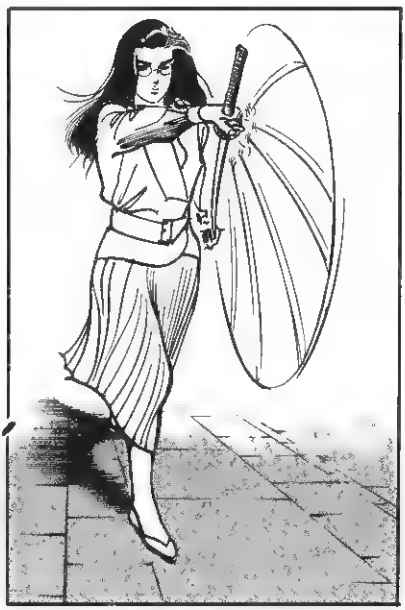


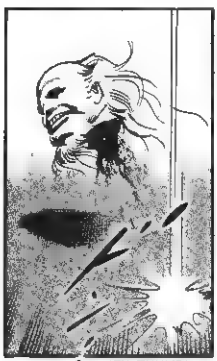
*FX SHINNG


MURAMASA
!?!
*FX SPUTCH

*FX. C. NK

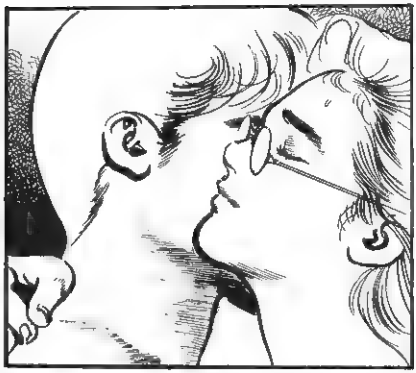


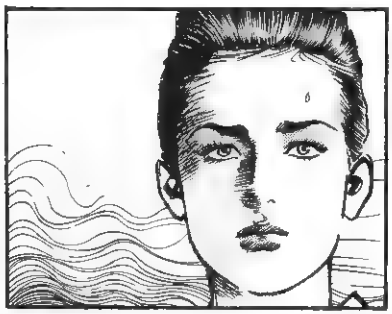


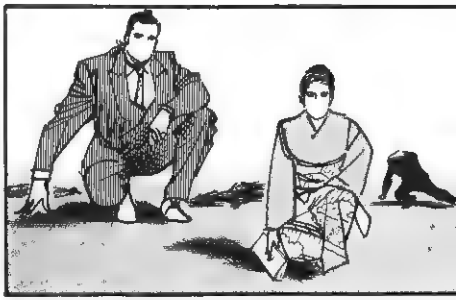


*FX. THUMP!

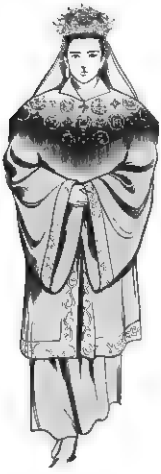
*FX. C..ANNG

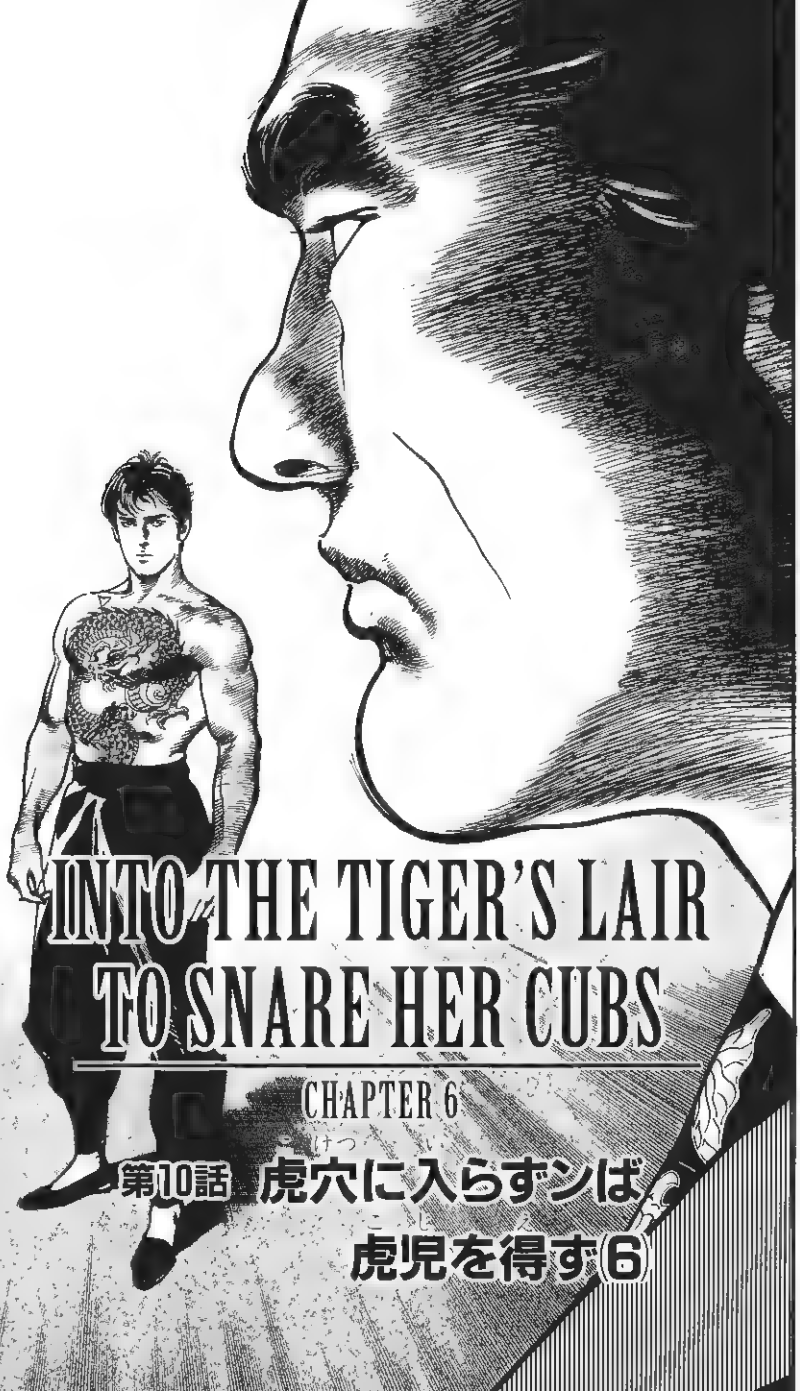






VERY WELL.
NOW WE BATTLE TO THE DEATH! IF I WIN, I WILL BE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO MY FAMILY!
*FX SP. OOSH FWHOOSH

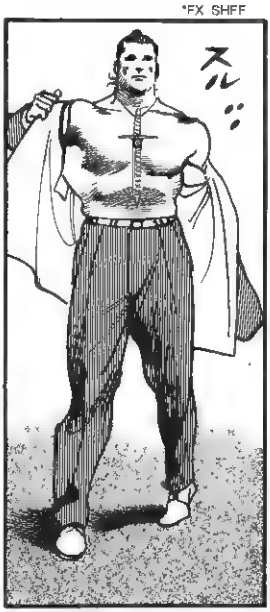


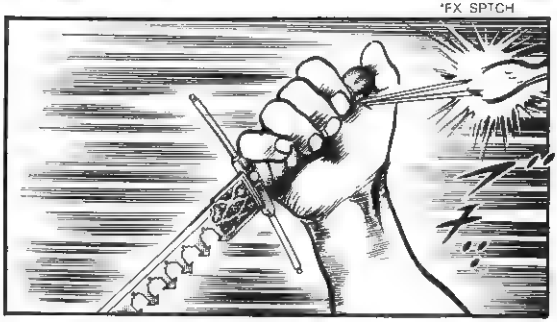


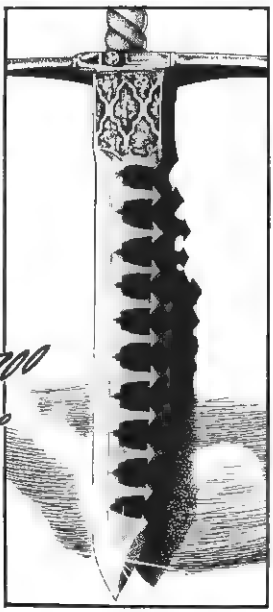
INTO THE TIGER'S LAIR TO SNARE HER CUBS

CHAPTER 6

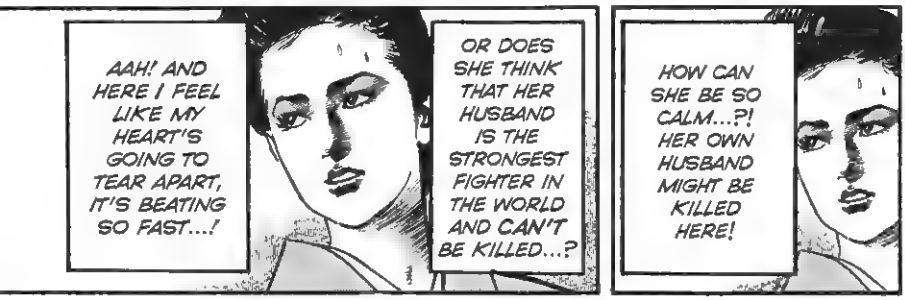
第10話　虎穴に入らずンば虎児を得ず6


*FX SHFF
スル


*FX SPTCH

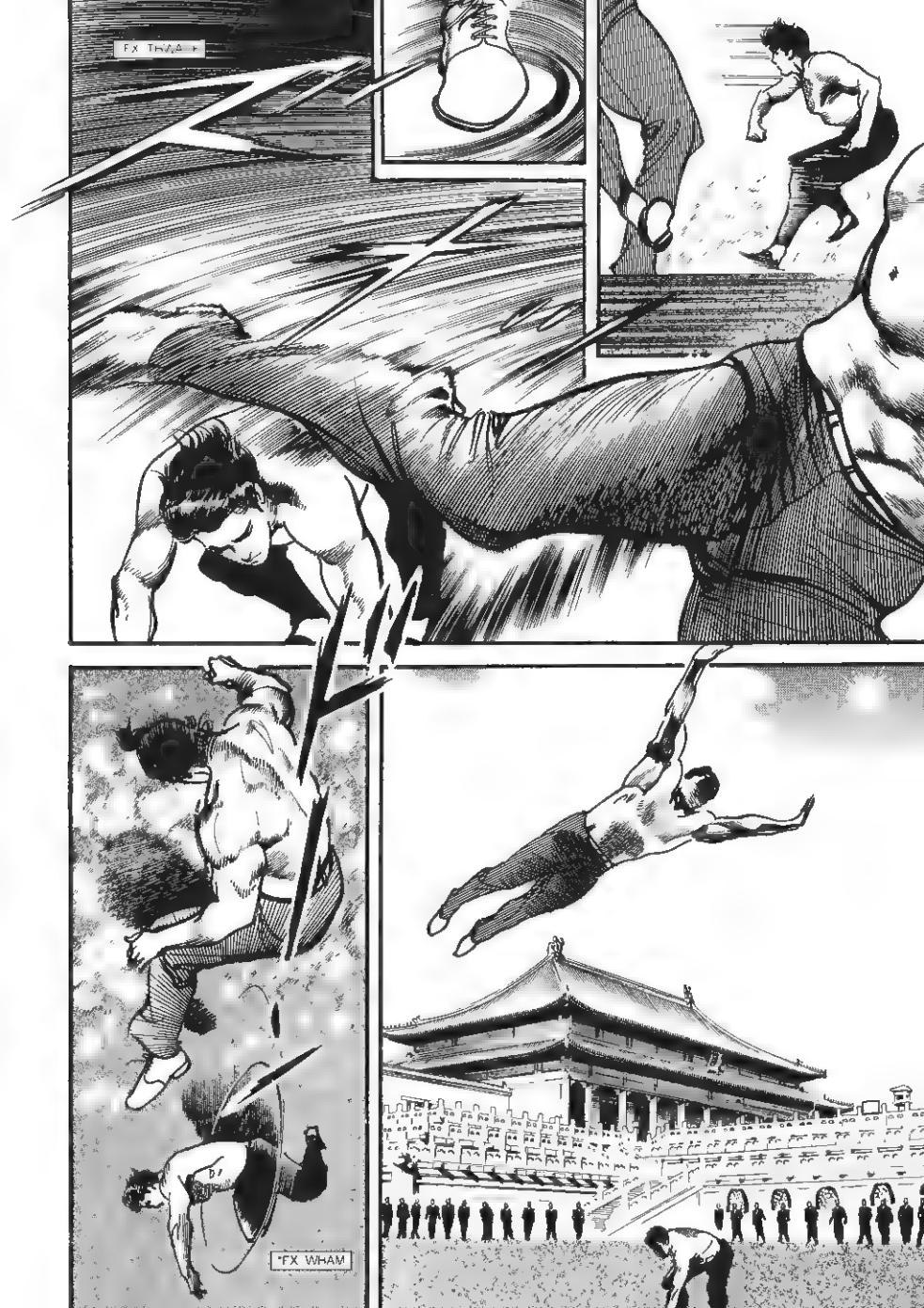


*FX KINK


AAH! AND HERE I FEEL LIKE MY HEART'S GOING TO TEAR APART, IT'S BEATING SO FAST...!
OR DOES SHE THINK THAT HER HUSBAND IS THE STRONGEST FIGHTER IN THE WORLD AND CAN'T BE KILLED...?
HOW CAN SHE BE SO CALM...?! HER OWN HUSBAND MIGHT BE KILLED HERE!

SHE'S NOT LIKE OTHER JAPANESE WOMEN... SHE'S AMAZING!

*FX SHFF! SHFF
OSHU WAS THE GREATEST PRO WRESTLER IN THE WORLD...
...AND HE HAS A DEADLY FLYING-CROSS ATTACK CALLED A TOPE.
*FX WHJP
*FX GRRAAAHH


FX THWA
FX WHAM

*FX GULP!
WITH THOSE HANDICAPS AND SUCH A WEIGHT DIFFERENCE, HOW CAN FREEMAN BEAT HIM?
OSHU HAS NO WEAKNESSES, AND HE'S USING A LETHAL WEAPON.
*FX FLITT
*FX HRRK

*FX CRUNCH
URGH!!
*FX YEEARGHH

*FX HRRRGGHH
*FX WHUP WHUP
AAAH!!
*FX WHUP

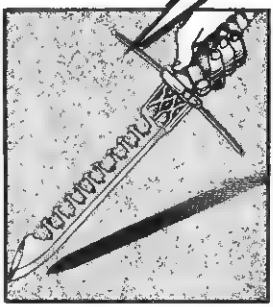
*FX HRRK
*FX FWIP
*FX WHAM
GYAAH!!

URR... INCREDIBLY WELL DONE, FREEMAN...
I CAN'T HEAR A THING!

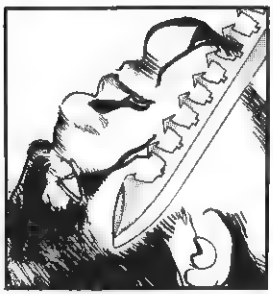
*FX WHFF
*FX GRRAAHH!
*FX GRIN

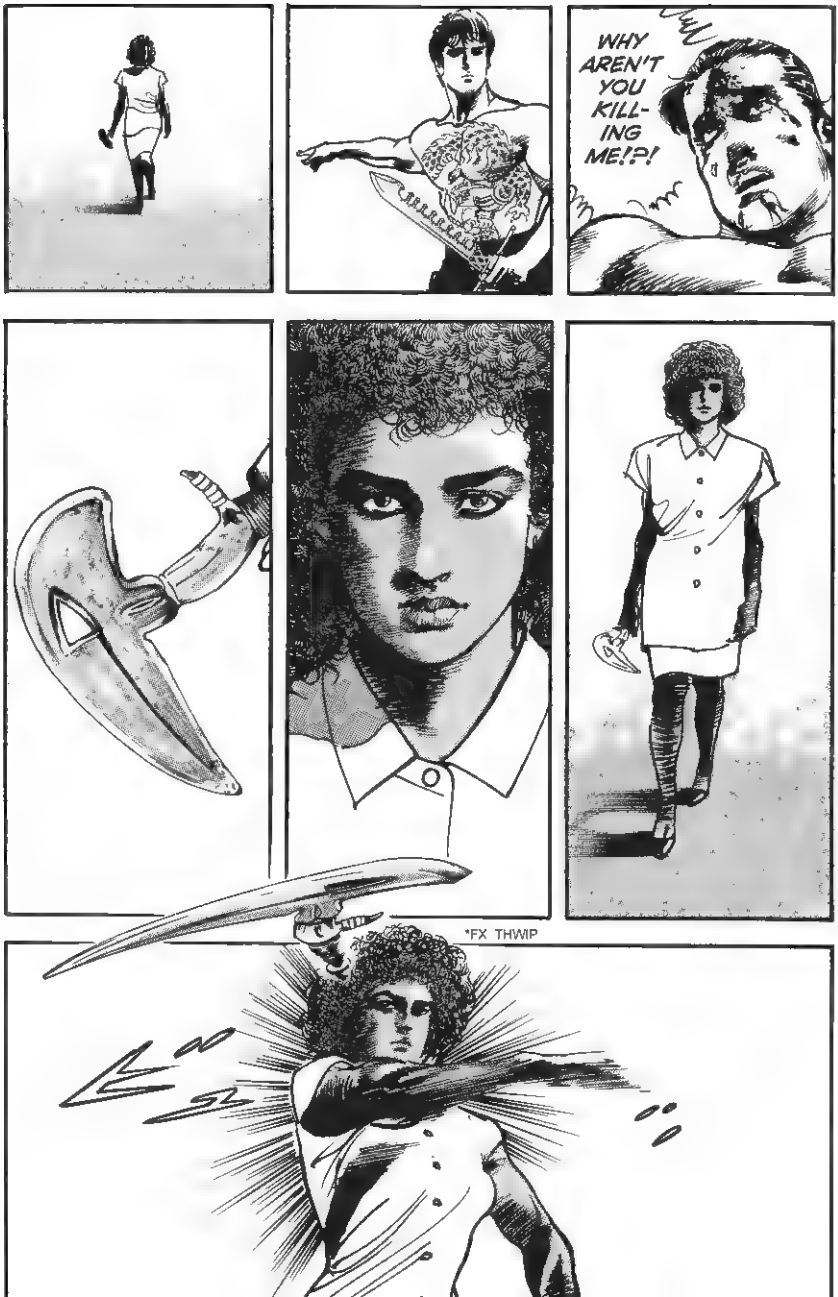
*FX THD
*FX KRAKK
ARGHH!!

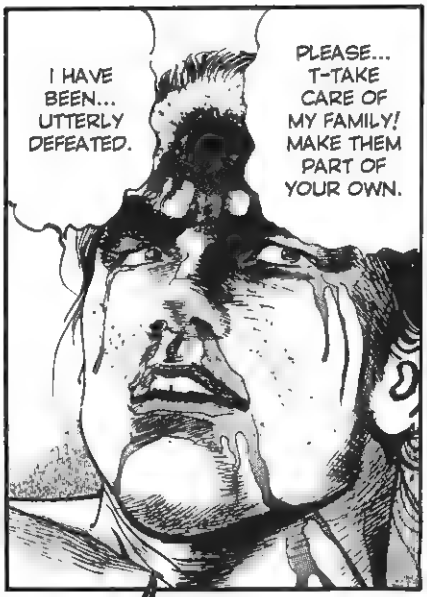
*FX GRRAAHH
*FX FSSHHH



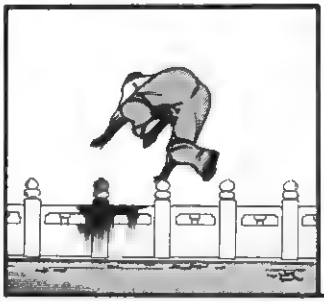
*FX SHEE

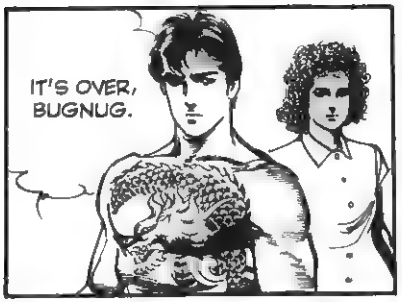


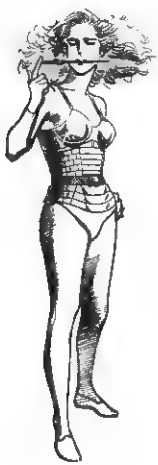

WHY AREN'T YOU KILL-ING ME!?!
*FX THWIP

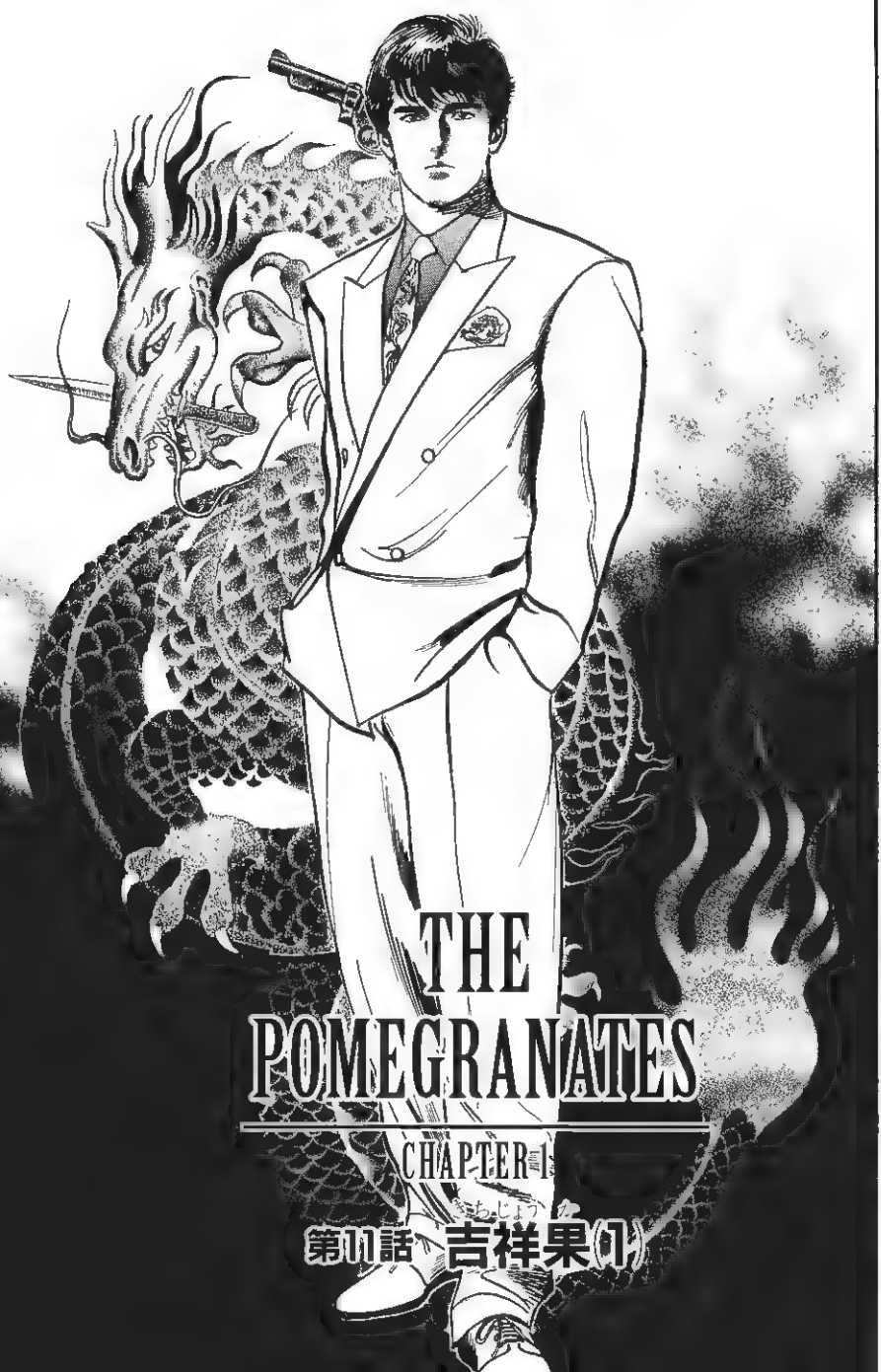

I HAVE BEEN... UTTERLY DEFEATED.
PLEASE... T-TAKE CARE OF MY FAMILY! MAKE THEM PART OF YOUR OWN.

*FX SHOKK




IT'S OVER, BUGNUG.





THE POMEGRANATES

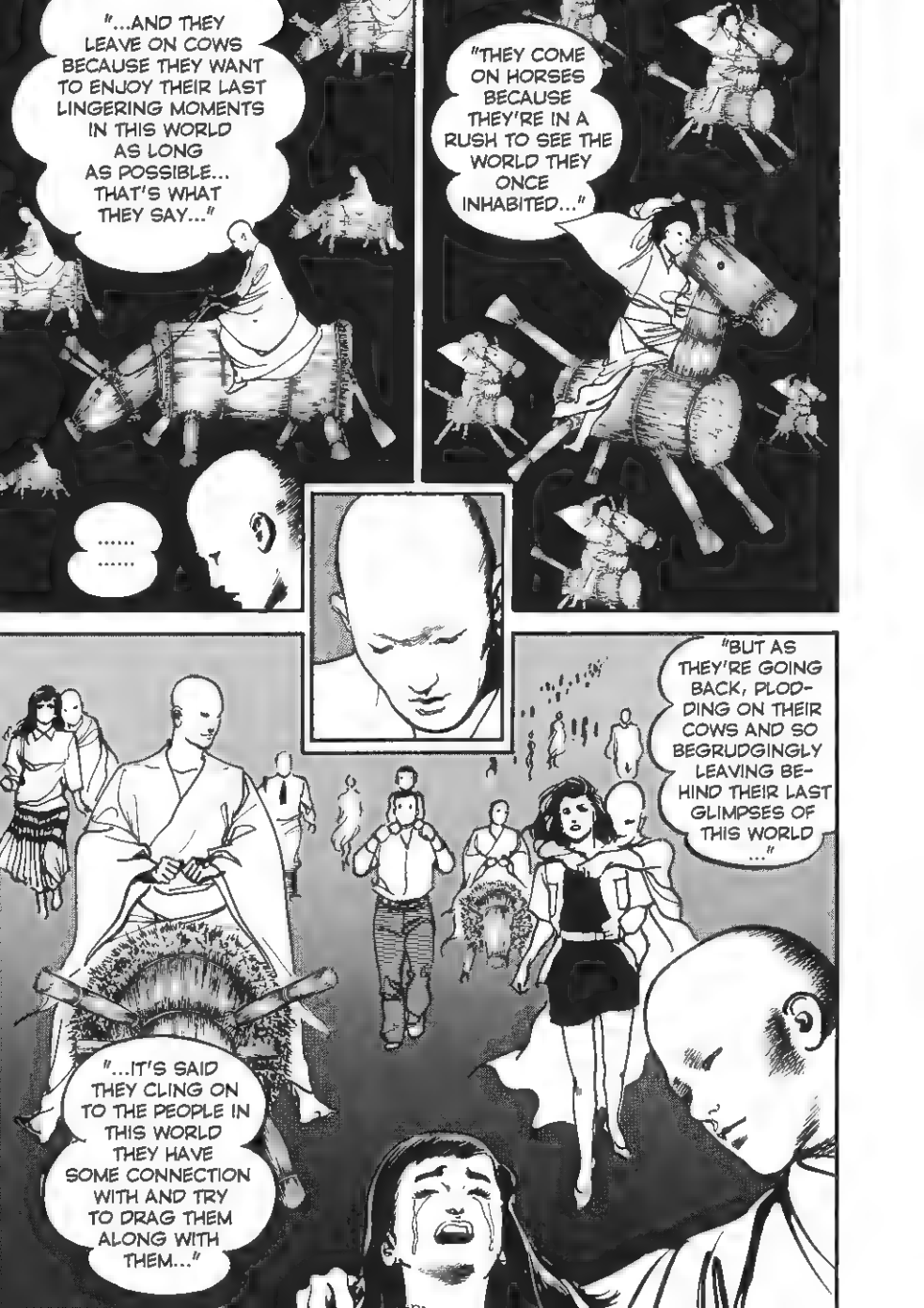
CHAPTER 1

第11話　吉祥果(1)

*FX VRRRMMMM

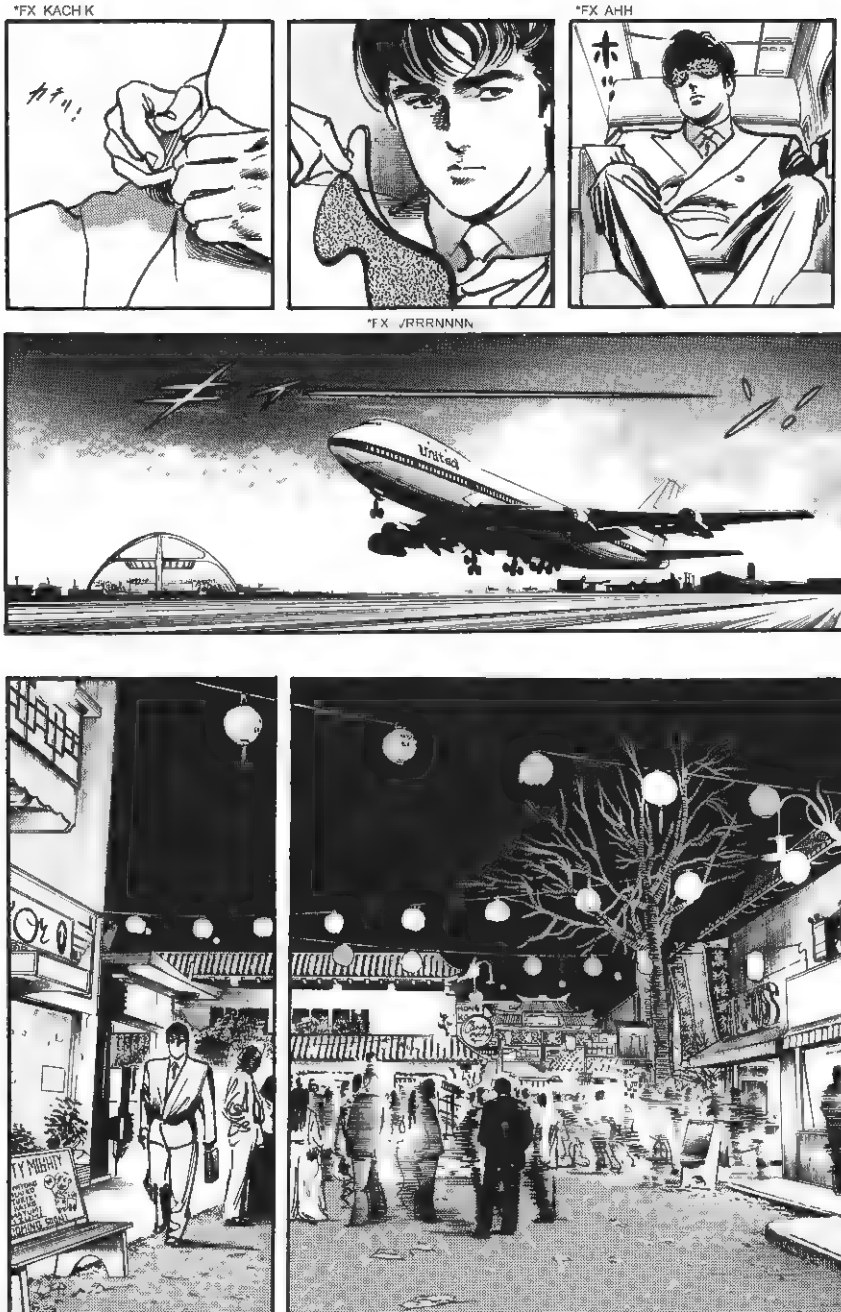
I WONDER WHY THERE ARE SO MANY PLANE CRASHES IN THE SUM-MERTIME...
MAYBE BECAUSE THIS IS WHEN THE COVER COMES OFF HELL'S CAULDRON ...
HM?!
"...AND THAT ACCIDENT RECENTLY WHERE THE ONLY PERSON THEY SAVED WAS A FOUR-YEAR-OLD GIRL..."
"THERE WAS THAT JUMBO THAT WENT DOWN TWO YEARS BACK..."
"WHY ARE THERE SO MANY AROUND THIS TIME OF YEAR...?"

MAYBE IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH OBON?
NOW IS WHEN THE EVIL SPIRITS OF HELL APPEAR IN THIS WORLD AND RUN AMOK.
.....
DURING THE OBON FESTIVAL, THAT ONE TIME EACH YEAR, THE SPIRITS OF OUR ANCESTORS AND OUR BLOOD RELATIVES APPEAR IN THIS WORLD FROM THE AFTERLIFE TO VISIT US, THEY SAY ...
WHEN THEY COME TO OUR WORLD, THEY RIDE IN ON HORSES MADE OF STRAW...
...AND WHEN THEY LEAVE, THEY GO BACK ON COWS!
SO I'VE HEARD, TOO.

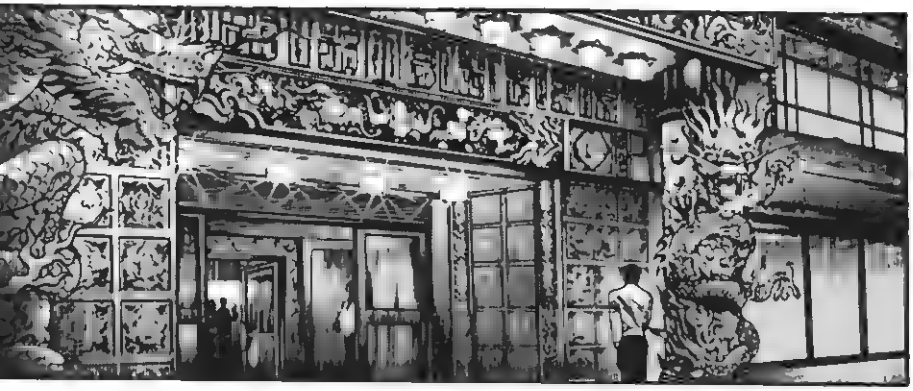

"...AND THEY LEAVE ON COWS BECAUSE THEY WANT TO ENJOY THEIR LAST LINGERING MOMENTS IN THIS WORLD AS LONG AS POSSIBLE... THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY..."
"THEY COME ON HORSES BECAUSE THEY'RE IN A RUSH TO SEE THE WORLD THEY ONCE INHABITED..."
.....
.....
"BUT AS THEY'RE GOING BACK, PLODDING ON THEIR COWS AND SO BEGRUDGINGLY LEAVING BEHIND THEIR LAST GLIMPSES OF THIS WORLD ..."
"...IT'S SAID THEY CLING ON TO THE PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD THEY HAVE SOME CONNECTION WITH AND TRY TO DRAG THEM ALONG WITH THEM..."

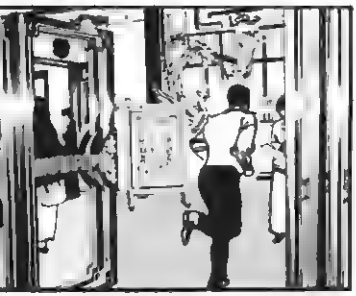
ISN'T THERE... SOME SIMILAR LEGEND IN CHINA?
IT'S A SUPER-STITION ...
THERE'S ALSO A STORY... THAT ALL THOSE SPIRITS LATCH ONTO AIRPLANES...
...AND THAT'S WHAT BRINGS THEM DOWN...
.....
.....
*FX WHJMP
SPIRITS OF ALL THE MEN I'VE KILLED...
I MUST BE HAUNTED BY DOZENS, NO, HUNDREDS OF EVIL SPIRITS BY NOW...

United
United
*FX. WHUMP! WHUMP!
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE WILL BE LANDING AT LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SOON. PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR SEAT BELT IS FASTENED. THANK YOU.


*FX KACHIK
*FX AHH
*FX VRRRNNNN
United

RESTAURANT
西餐厅

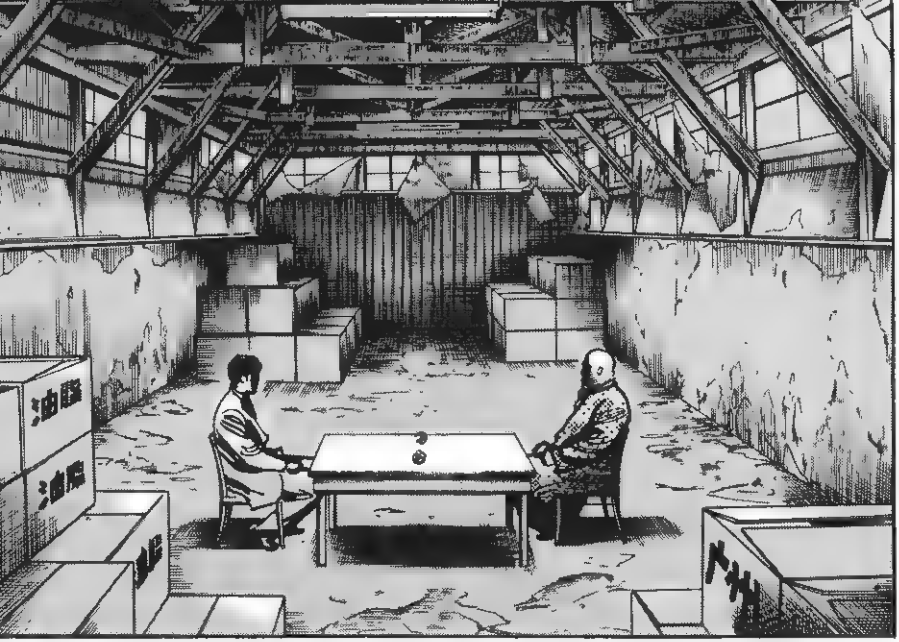


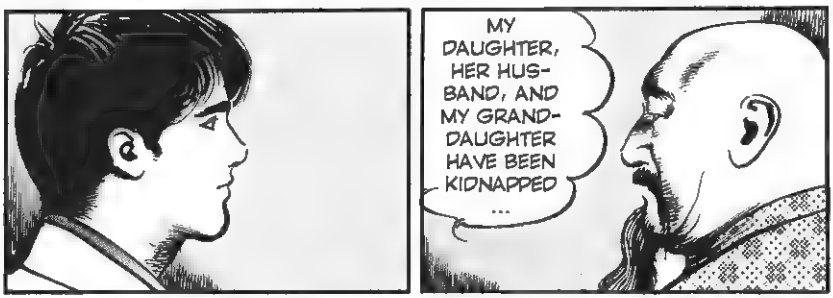


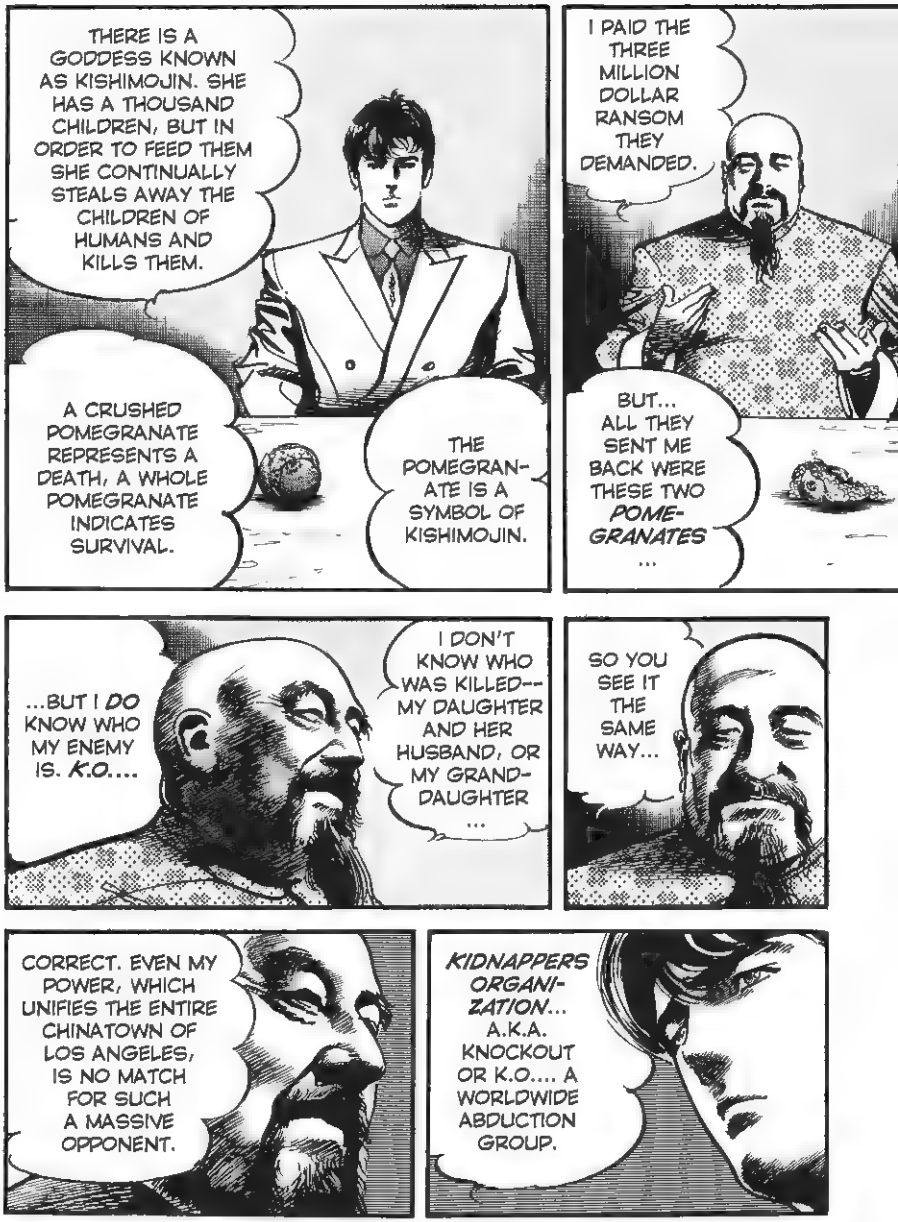
YES, SIR!!

GO TELL MASTER WONG THAT LONG TAI YANG FROM HONG KONG IS HERE TO SEE HIM.

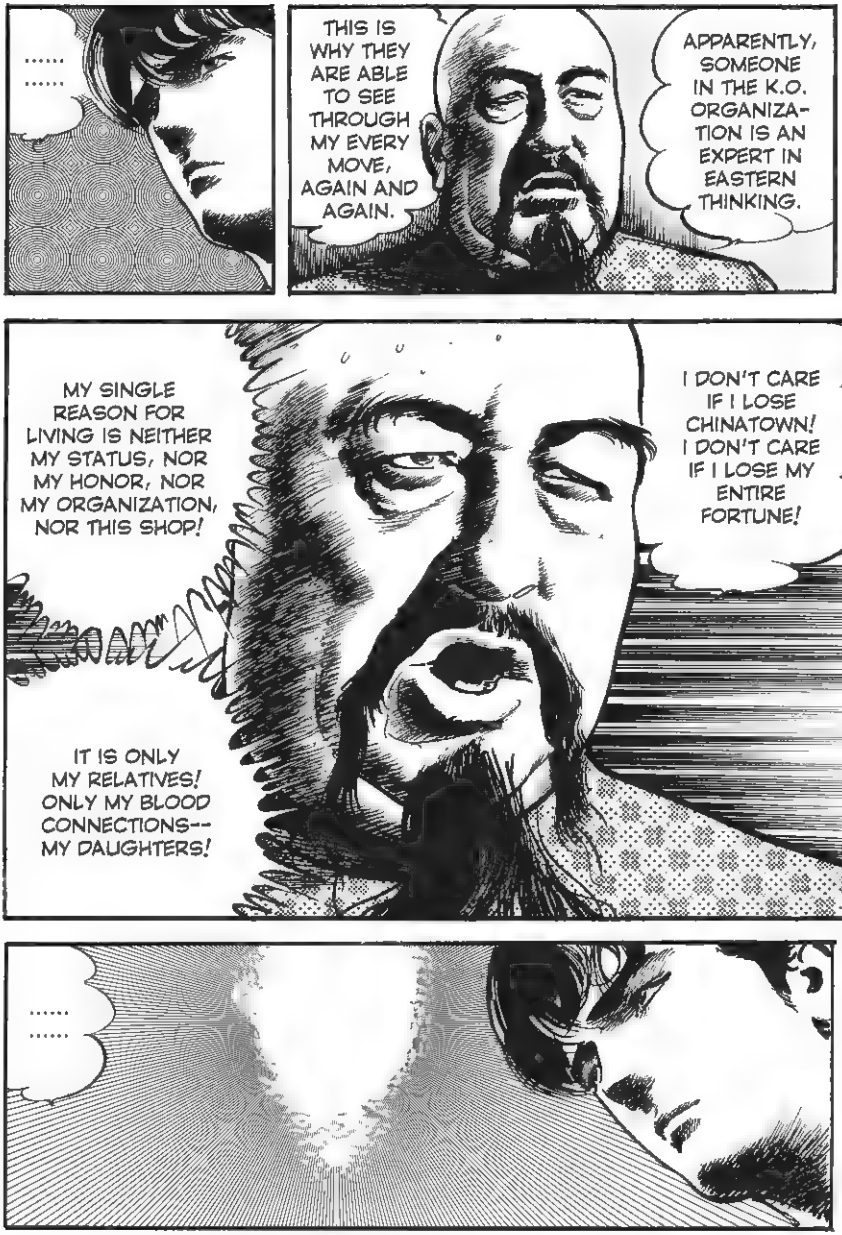
*FX SHINNG
HOW GOOD OF YOU TO COME, LONG TAI YANG!!
THE TIGER CALLS THE WIND THAT MAKES THE CLOUDS SWELL UP! THE CLOUDS SUMMON THE DRAGON, AND THE DRAGON MAKES THE SUN RISE!



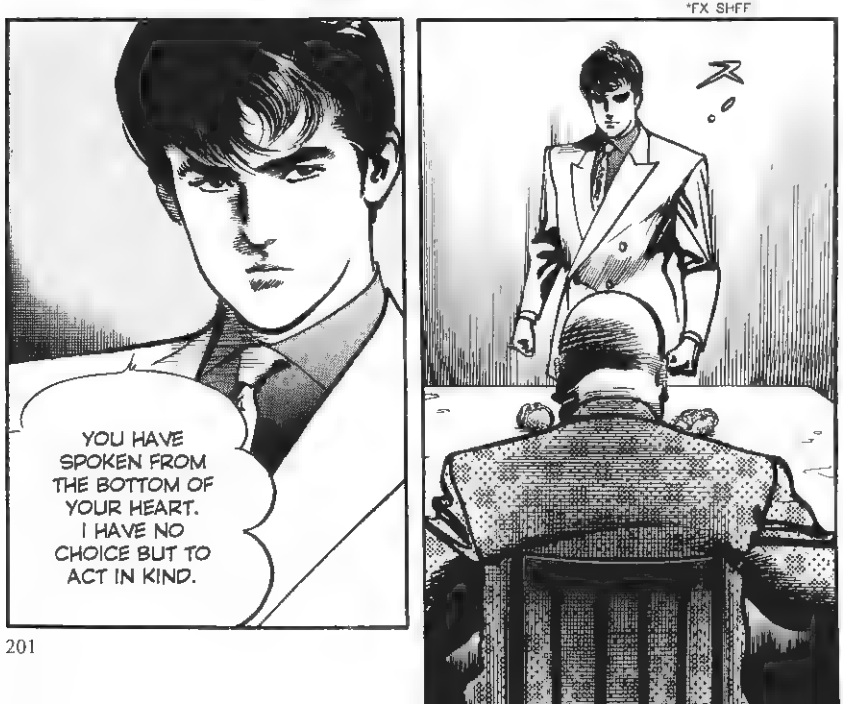

MY DAUGHTER, HER HUSBAND, AND MY GRANDDAUGHTER HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED ...

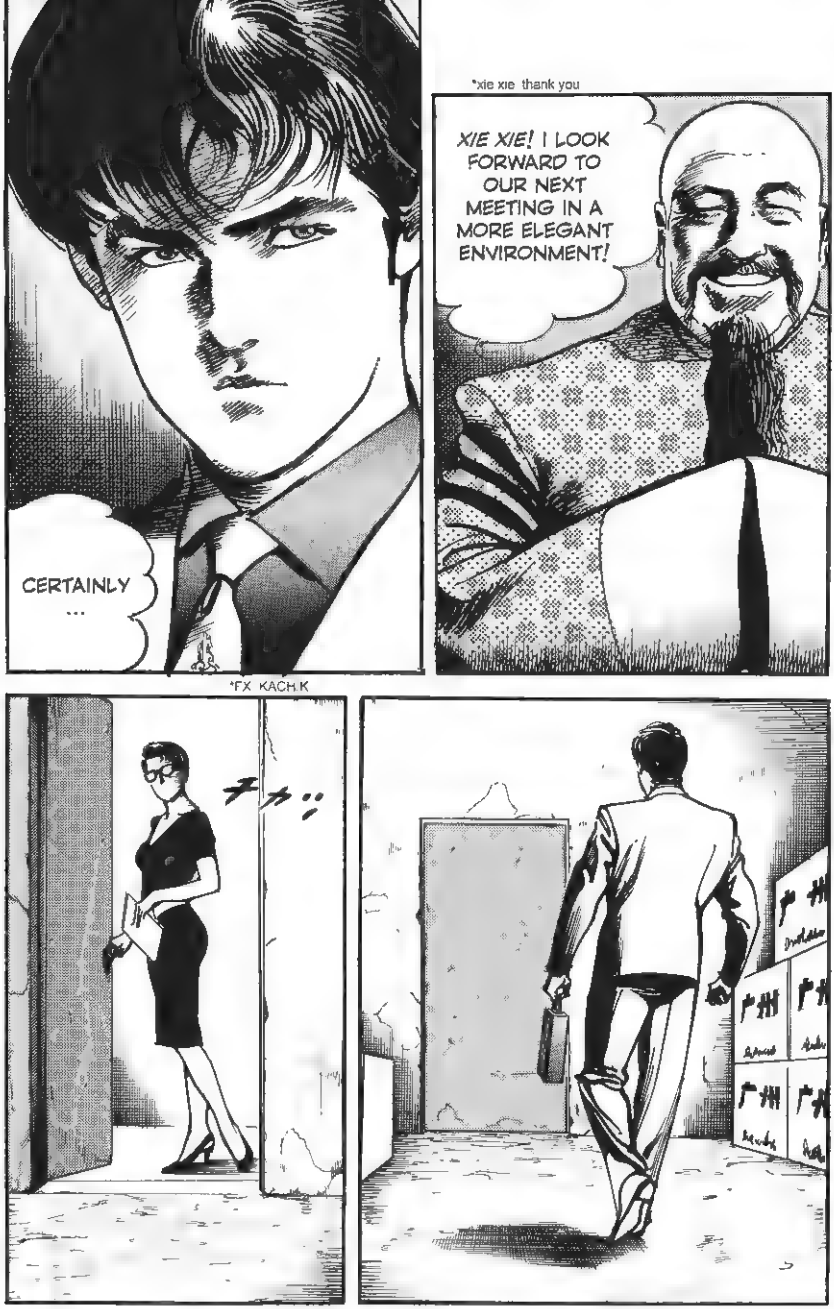

THERE IS A GODDESS KNOWN AS KISHIMOJIN. SHE HAS A THOUSAND CHILDREN, BUT IN ORDER TO FEED THEM SHE CONTINUALLY STEALS AWAY THE CHILDREN OF HUMANS AND KILLS THEM.
A CRUSHED POMEGRANATE REPRESENTS A DEATH, A WHOLE POMEGRANATE INDICATES SURVIVAL.
THE POMEGRAN-ATE IS A SYMBOL OF KISHIMOJIN.
I PAID THE THREE MILLION DOLLAR RANSOM THEY DEMANDED.
BUT... ALL THEY SENT ME BACK WERE THESE TWO *POME-GRANATES* ...
...BUT I *DO* KNOW WHO MY ENEMY IS. *K.O.*...
I DON'T KNOW WHO WAS KILLED--- MY DAUGHTER AND HER HUSBAND, OR MY GRAND-DAUGHTER ...
SO YOU SEE IT THE SAME WAY...
CORRECT. EVEN MY POWER, WHICH UNIFIES THE ENTIRE CHINATOWN OF LOS ANGELES, IS NO MATCH FOR SUCH A MASSIVE OPPONENT.
KIDNAPPERS ORGANI-ZATION... A.K.A. KNOCKOUT OR K.O.... A WORLDWIDE ABDUCTION GROUP.

...
...
TO RESCUE MY DAUGHTER, HER HUSBAND, AND MY GRAND-DAUGHTER, SAFE AND SOUND.
SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO...?!
I KNOW.
...NOT ONE OF THEM HAS RETURNED.
I'VE SINGLED OUT AND SENT THE BEST MEN FROM MY ORGANIZATION AND ORDERED THEIR RESCUE AND VENGEANCE, BUT...
ACCORDING TO THE RUMORS, THEIR ORGANIZATION IS POPULATED WITH FORMER GREEN BERETS, EX-MERCENARIES, AND SUCH OTHER MEN OF SKILL.
...
...
...BUT THERE'S NO MISTAKE THAT SOMEONE ELSE MUST HAVE HIRED THEM TO DO THIS.
THEIR ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE MUST BE TO END MY LIFE AND TAKE OVER CHINATOWN...


.....
.....
THIS IS WHY THEY ARE ABLE TO SEE THROUGH MY EVERY MOVE, AGAIN AND AGAIN.
APPARENTLY, SOMEONE IN THE K.O. ORGANIZATION IS AN EXPERT IN EASTERN THINKING.
MY SINGLE REASON FOR LIVING IS NEITHER MY STATUS, NOR MY HONOR, NOR MY ORGANIZATION, NOR THIS SHOP!
I DON'T CARE IF I LOSE CHINATOWN! I DON'T CARE IF I LOSE MY ENTIRE FORTUNE!
IT IS ONLY MY RELATIVES! ONLY MY BLOOD CONNECTIONS-- MY DAUGHTERS!
.....
.....

NO... ONLY MY GRAND-DAUGHTER!! I NEED TO HOLD HER IN THESE ARMS AGAIN!!
TO FEEL HER BLOOD PULSING... I WANT TO FEEL THAT SAME BLOOD THAT FLOWS THROUGH ME AGAIN!!
I UNDER-STAND. I'LL TAKE THE JOB.


*FX SHFF
YOU HAVE SPOKEN FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART. I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ACT IN KIND.

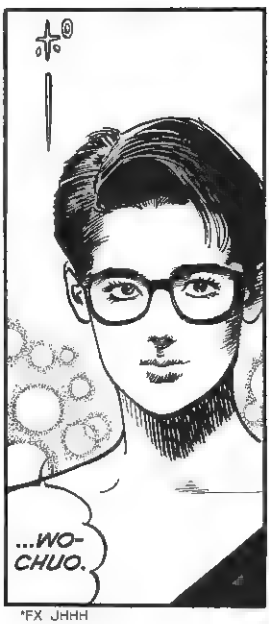

CERTAINLY ...
*xie xie thank you
XIE XIE! I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT MEETING IN A MORE ELEGANT ENVIRONMENT!
*FX KACH.K

THE POMEGRANATES

CHAPTER 2

第11話 吉祥果(2)

I'M LONG TAI YANG.

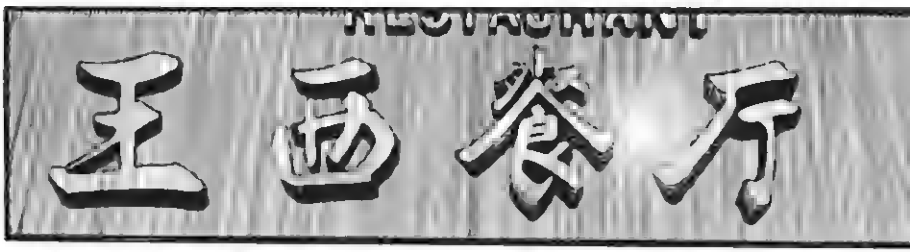

...WO-CHUO.

I HAVE TWO DAUGH-TERS. THIS IS THE OTHER.

MY NAME IS...

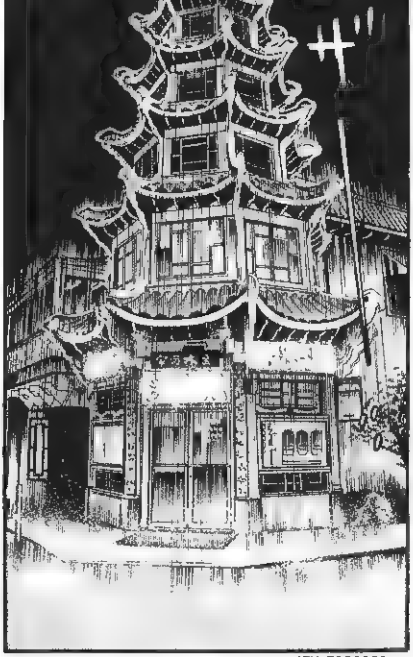
*FX JHHH

...WORKING IN THEIR STRATEGY COMPUTER ROOM. I CALLED HER HERE.
WO-CHUO STUDIED COMMUNI-CATIONS ENGINEERING AT MIT AND IS NOW WITH THE PENTAGON...
FX I-MPH
I JUST ARRIVED.
IT WAS MY YOUNGER SISTER WHO WAS KIDNAPPED.
WO-CHUO.
FATHER ...


RESTAURANT
王西餐厅

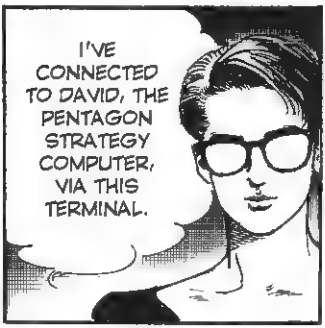
西餐厅

THE WONG FAMILY HAS BEEN RUNNING CHINATOWN FOR THE LAST SIXTY YEARS.
*FX FSSSSSS
...AND AS WHITES THEY'D BE CONSPI-CUOUS.
THEY'D NEVER GAIN THE TRUST OR RESPECT OF THE RESIDENTS... THEY'D HAVE TROUBLE WITH EVERYTHING BY COMING IN HERE AS A FOREIGN RACE...
WHAT IS K.O. AFTER?! EVEN IF THEY DID TAKE OVER THIS TOWN, ON THE SURFACE OF IT, IT APPEARS POINTLESS.
JUST WHAT THE HELL DO THEY WANT FROM WONG?!
AN INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF ABDUCTORS THAT THE WHOLE WORLD FEARS... THE KIDNAPPERS ORGANIZATION ...



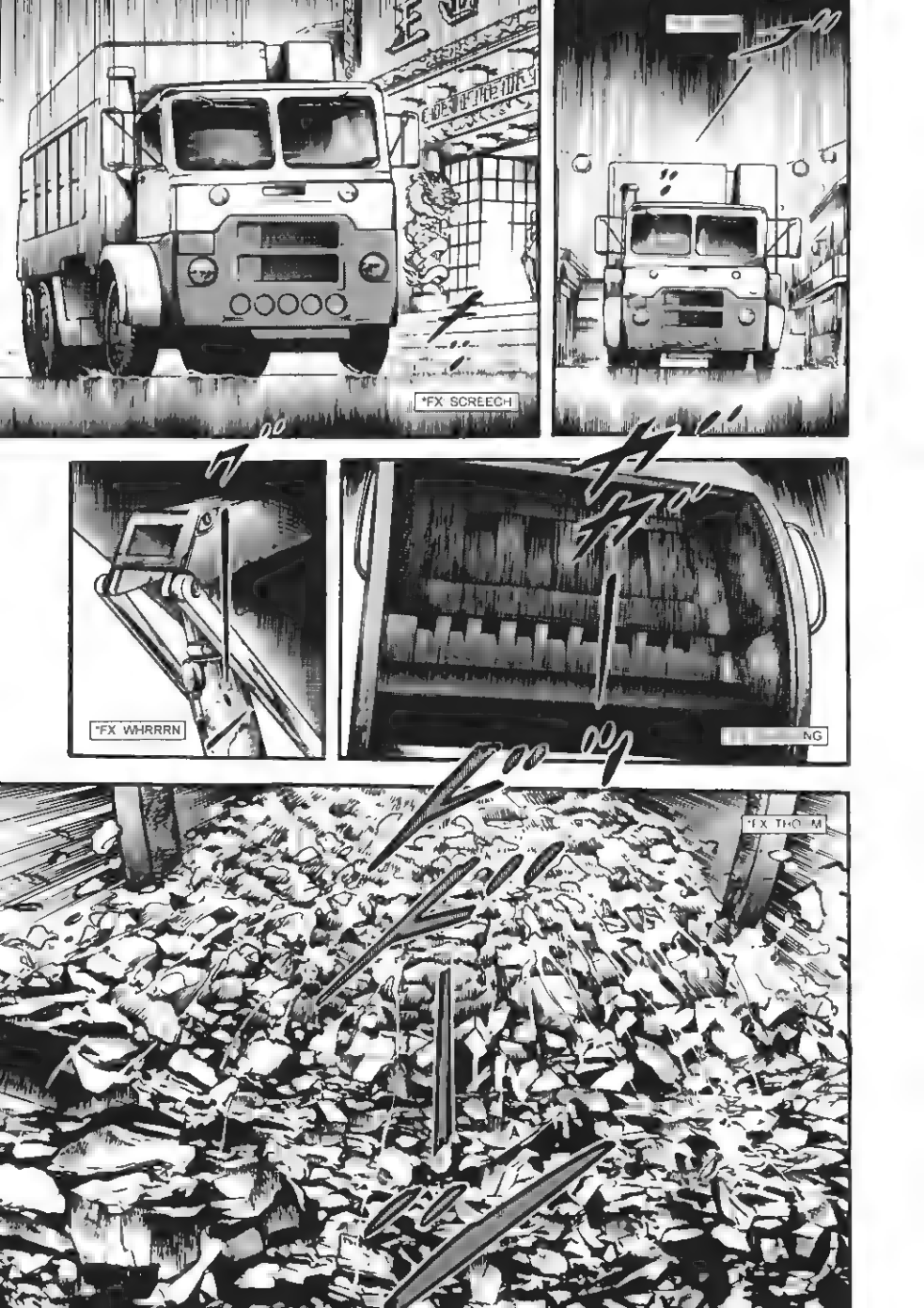
WONG IS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO SUMMON ME, HEAD OF THE 108 DRAGONS.
K.O. MUST BE AWARE OF THAT.

*FX FSSSSSS


I'VE CONNECTED TO DAVID, THE PENTAGON STRATEGY COMPUTER, VIA THIS TERMINAL.

RIGHT.

FIND ANYTHING ABOUT POMEGRANATES OR KNOWLEDGE OF EASTERN THINKING.
LOOK FOR RETIRED GREEN BERETS ...


*FX SCREECH
*FX WHRRRN
NG
*FX THOM

*FX VRRRMMM

SH-SHE'S WEARING THE HAIRPIN I GAVE HER FOR HER BIRTHDAY!!
I-IT'S MY SISTER!!
AAAAAH!!
*FX AAAAH
*FX WHAFF WHAFF WHAFF
WO-CHUO!! GET AWAY FROM THERE!!
*FX HUH?

*FX. HSSHH

*FX SHUKK
*FX CHOK

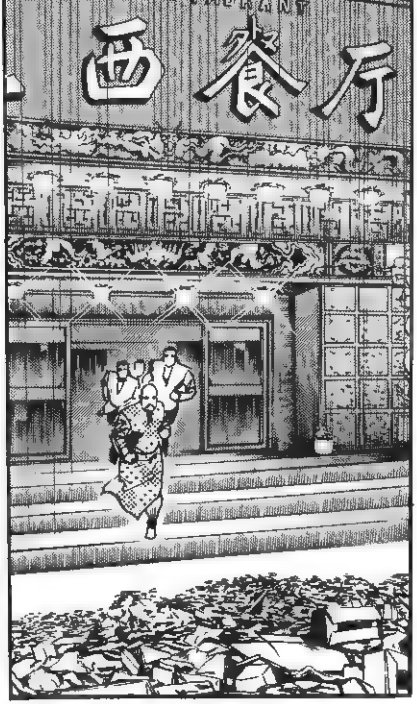
*FX HRRK

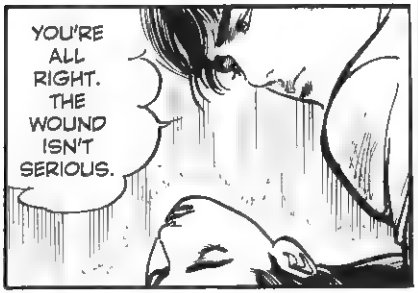
ATTACK!!
NOT SO EASY TO MOVE AROUND IN ALL THIS GARBAGE, IS IT, FREEMAN!?!
*FX VRRMMM
SAFE
FIRE

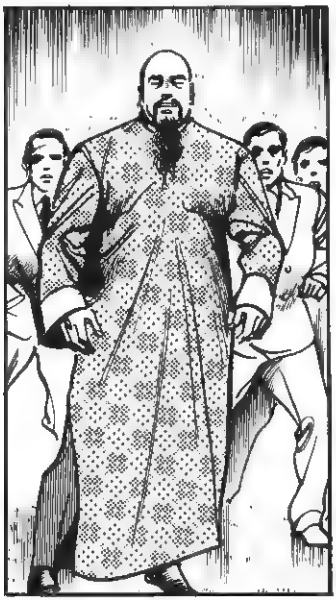
*FX VRRRMMM

*FX BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
KILL HIM!!
GA-HAHAH HA HAHA HAHAHAHA!!
*FX SHKK
*FX SPTCH SPTCH

*FX BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
*FX YEEAARGH
*FX VRRRNMM
*FX VRRRMMM

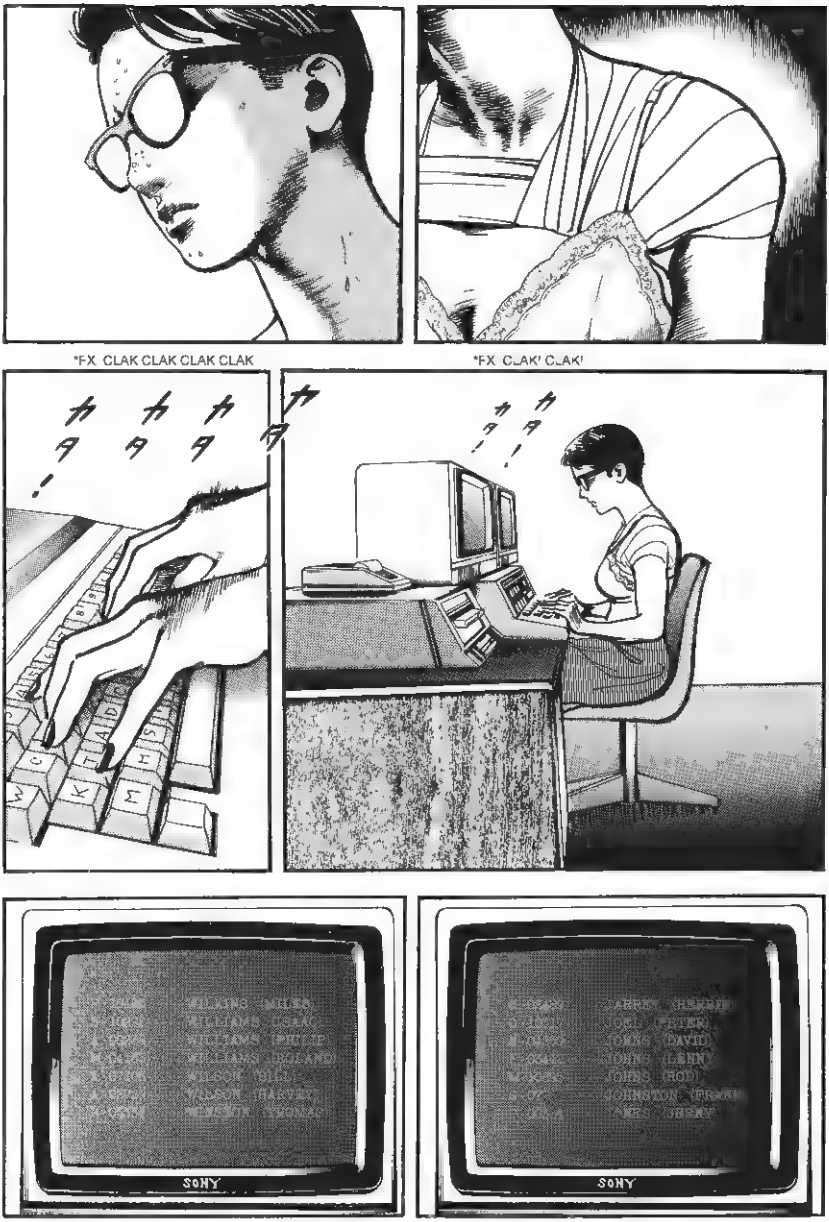

西餐厅

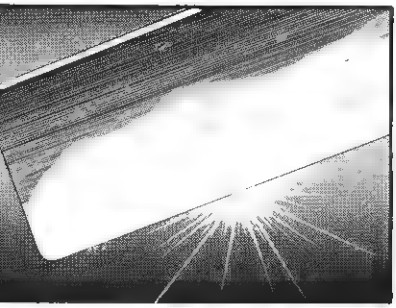

YOU'RE ALL RIGHT. THE WOUND ISN'T SERIOUS.

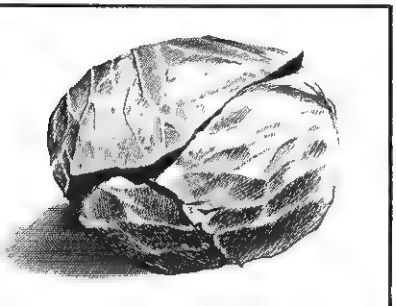


AND THERE'S A TRAITOR IN CHINATOWN.
...IS ME!!
NOW I UNDER-STAND. K.O.'S TARGET...
*FX HMPH!

第11話 吉祥果3


*FX CLAK CLAK CLAK CLAK
*FX CLAK! CLAK!
SONY
SONY





THIS CHINATOWN WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1850, AND IT ENDURES TO THIS DAY!

*FX CHOKK!
THEY LOADED UP THEIR DISHES WITH LEFTOVER VEGETABLE LEAVES, ADDED SEASONING, AND PROVIDED THEM TO LABORERS AT CHEAP PRICES TO GREAT POPULARITY!
THE FIRST SHOP TO OPEN HERE WAS A RESTAURANT CALLED CHIVES!
THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF CHINATOWN!

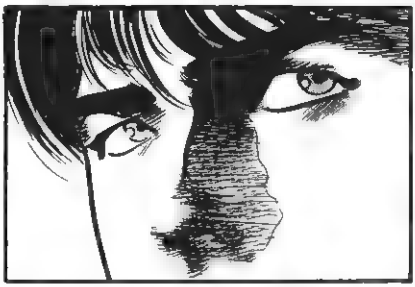
WE NEVER BETRAYED OUR OWN!
... THROUGH UNITY!
AFTER THAT, WE SQUEEZED THROUGH REPEATED ATTEMPTS TO BOYCOTT US, AND SURVIVE TO THIS DAY...
NOT ONCE HAVE WE EVER BETRAYED THIS TOWN!

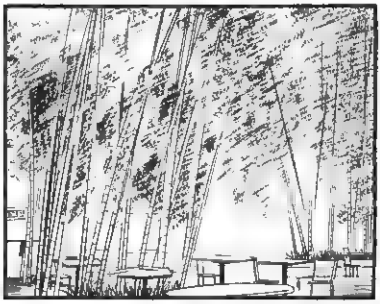
...A TRAITOR HAS APPEARED!!
AND YET NOW...
*FX. CHOKK CHOKK CHOKK
...MY DAUGHTER, HER HUSBAND, AND MY GRAND-DAUGHTER WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED! THE LIFE OF MY GUEST WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ENDANGERED!!
IF NOT FOR THIS TRAITOR ...

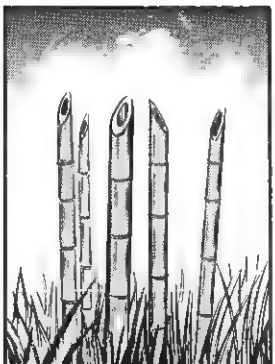
THERE MUST BE A COM-MUNICATIONS ANTENNA HERE SOMEWHERE!
ALL OF YOU WILL SEEK OUT THIS TRAITOR!
FIND THAT, AND IT WILL LEAD YOU TO THEM!!
*FX WHACK WHACK
*FX THOK THOK THOK

*FX CLAK CLAK CLAK
カタカタ
I CAN'T FIND ANY RETIRED GREEN BERETS THAT FIT THE DESCRIPTION.
NONE ACTIVE, EITHER.
WE CAN'T FIND A COMMUNICATIONS ANTENNA AROUND HERE ANYWHERE!

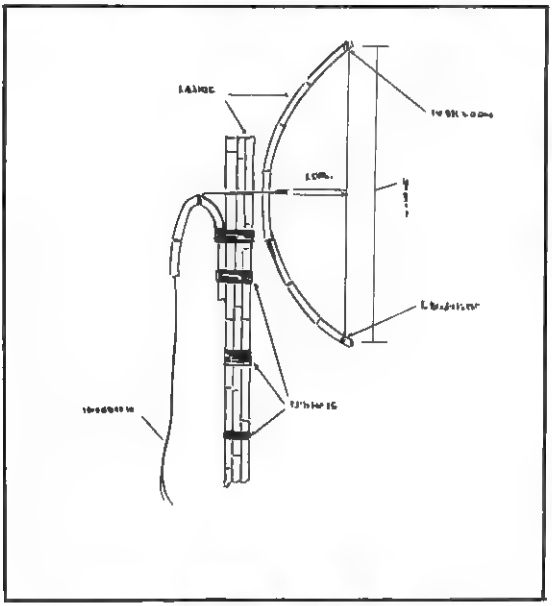
HONG KONG

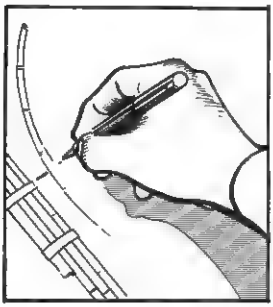






I BELIEVE THE COMMUNICATIONS ANTENNA IS MADE OF BAMBOO.





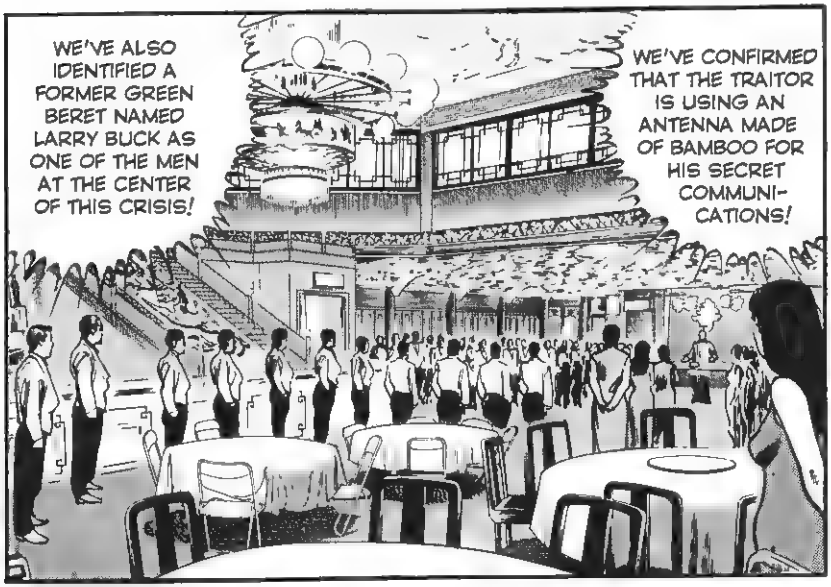
SURE.

WO-CHUO, I WANT YOU TO DO A SEARCH FOR RETIRED GREEN BERETS THAT ARE TATTOOED WITH KISHIMOJIN.

*FX AAH!
*FX CLAK CLAK CLAK

A PRO AMONG PROS...
LARRY BUCK. LIEUTENANT AT THE TIME OF HIS RETIREMENT. AN EXPERT IN SKIING, SCUBA DIVING, ROCK CLIMBING, AND A MASTER PARACHUTIST.

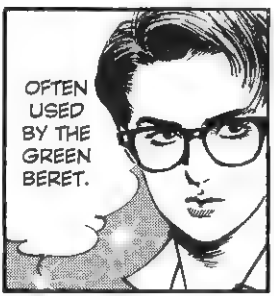
...WHO EXCELS IN ARTS OF DESCENT.


WE'VE ALSO IDENTIFIED A FORMER GREEN BERET NAMED LARRY BUCK AS ONE OF THE MEN AT THE CENTER OF THIS CRISIS!
WE'VE CONFIRMED THAT THE TRAITOR IS USING AN ANTENNA MADE OF BAMBOO FOR HIS SECRET COMMUNI-CATIONS!

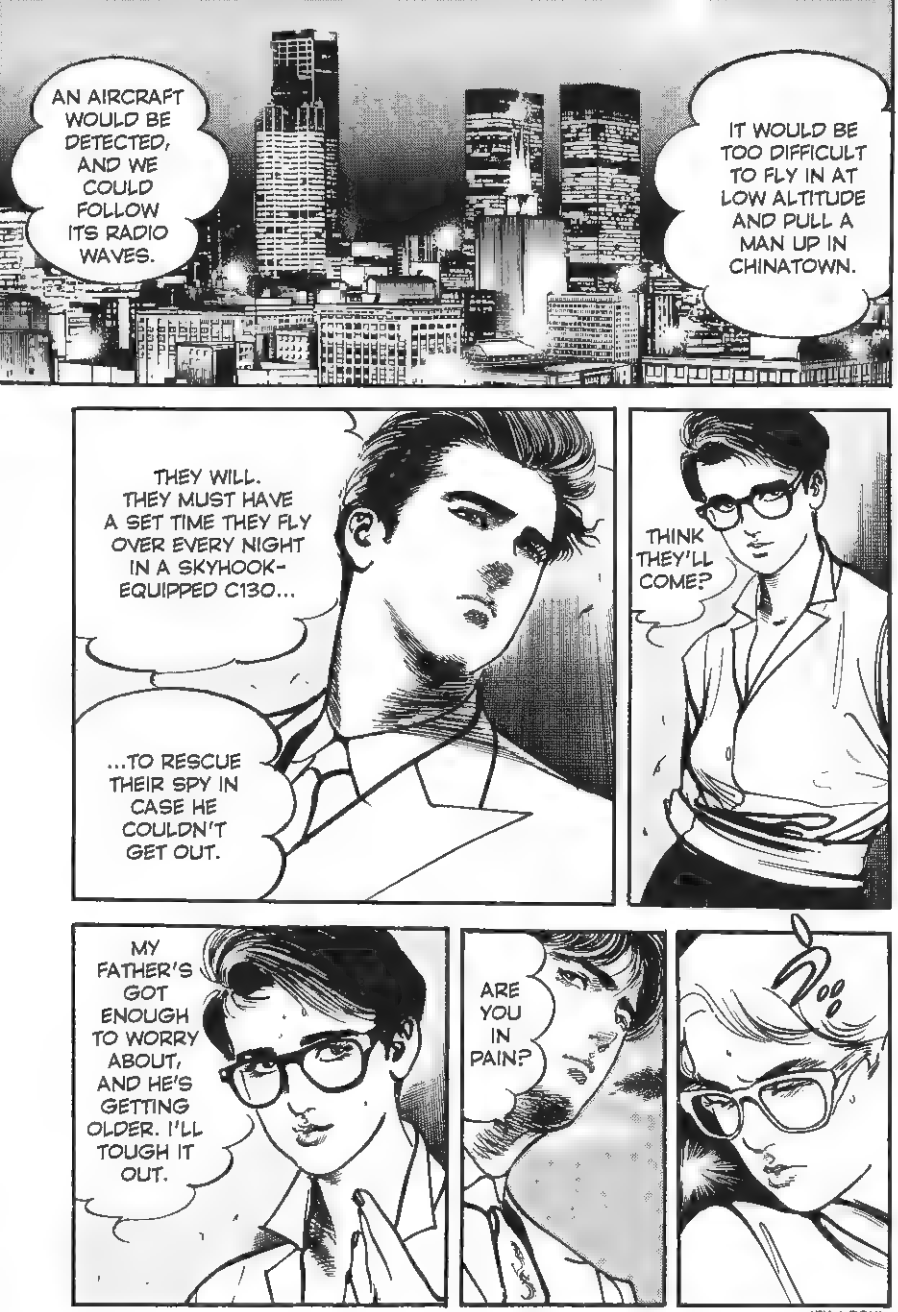
THE FULL PICTURE MAY BE MADE CLEAR AS EARLY AS TOMORROW!

CHINA FIRST BANK
FIRST BANK
mighty

SKY-HOOK.

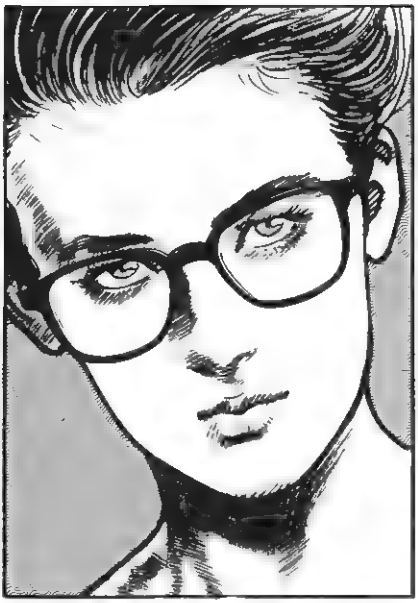

OFTEN USED BY THE GREEN BERET.

ALL THE STREETS IN AND OUT OF TOWN ARE TOTALLY LOCKED DOWN. HE CAN'T EVEN GET OUT THROUGH THE SEWERS.
BUT HE CAN'T MAKE ANOTHER ANTENNA, AND HE CAN'T USE THE PHONE.
WE'VE PUSHED THE TRAITOR INTO A CORNER. HE'LL *HAVE* TO CONTACT HIS PEOPLE RIGHT AWAY.
IF HE WANTS OUT, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY HE CAN MAKE CONTACT.


AN AIRCRAFT WOULD BE DETECTED, AND WE COULD FOLLOW ITS RADIO WAVES.
IT WOULD BE TOO DIFFICULT TO FLY IN AT LOW ALTITUDE AND PULL A MAN UP IN CHINATOWN.
THEY WILL. THEY MUST HAVE A SET TIME THEY FLY OVER EVERY NIGHT IN A SKYHOOK-EQUIPPED C130...
...TO RESCUE THEIR SPY IN CASE HE COULDN'T GET OUT.
THINK THEY'LL COME?
MY FATHER'S GOT ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT, AND HE'S GETTING OLDER. I'LL TOUGH IT OUT.
ARE YOU IN PAIN?
*FX URGH!

IF IT IS MY PRESENCE HERE THAT'S CAUSING ALL YOUR TROUBLES, I PROMISE TO TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY.
*FX HUHH
*FX SHFF
I HEAR YOU'VE GOT A DRAGON TATTOO AND YOUR WIFE'S GOT A TIGER, RIGHT?
WONG FAMILY MEMBERS HAVE A CHINESE PHOENIX.

NOW SHOW ME *YOURS*, LONG TAI YANG.
MAGNIFI-CENT.



*FX: HMF

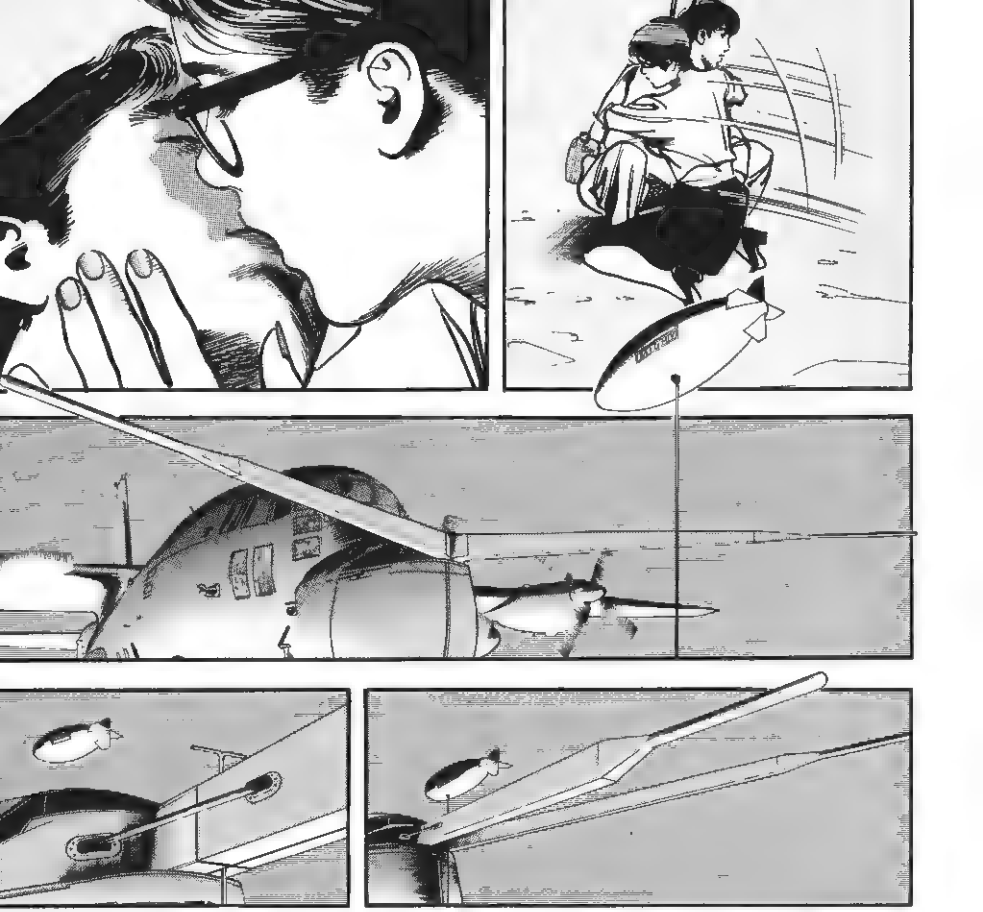
THE
POMEGRANATES
CHAPTER 4
第11話 吉祥果(4)

HE'S FILL-ING IT WITH HELIUM.
*FX SSHHHH

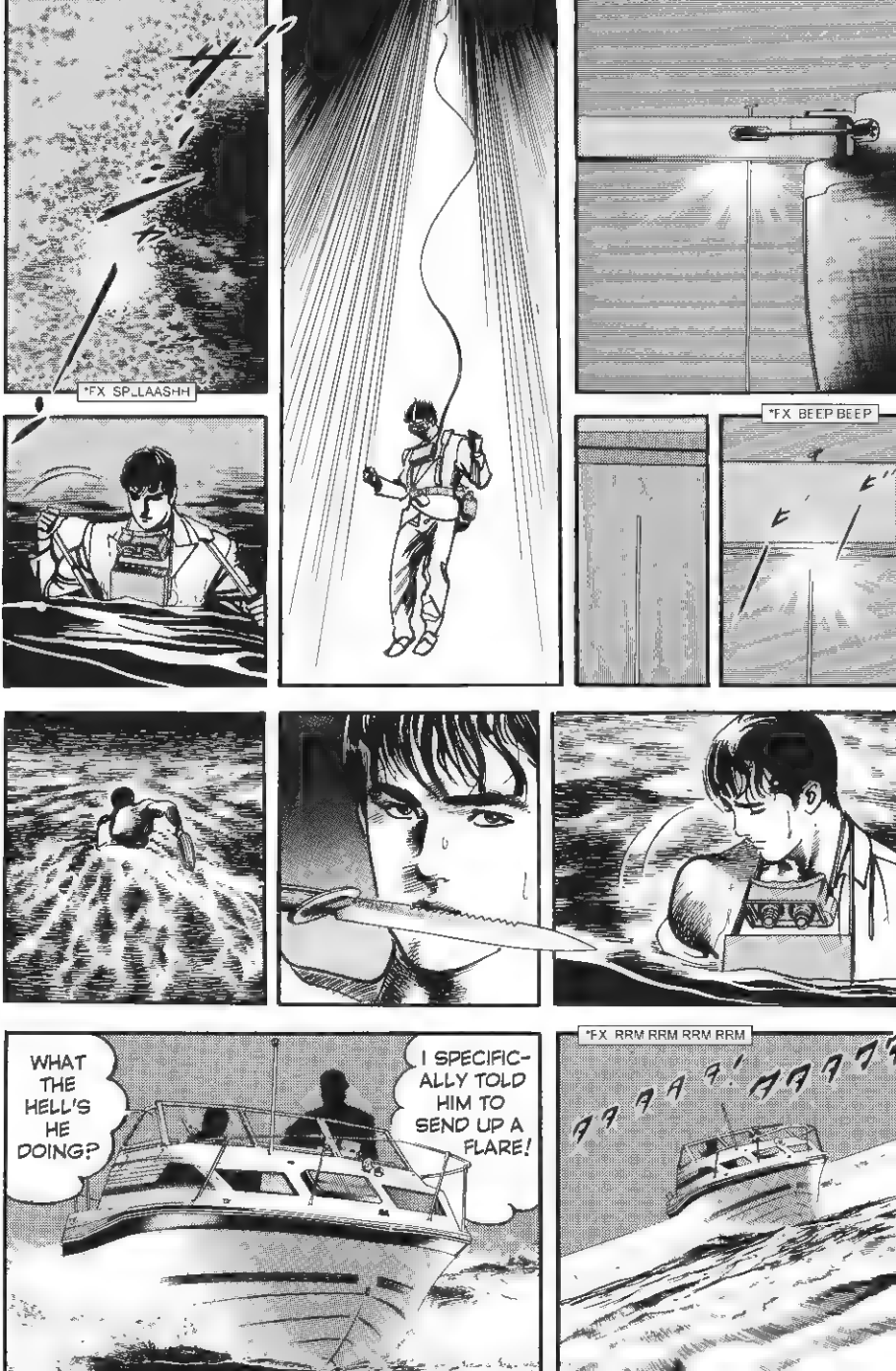
CANDY
IT'LL CLIMB TO FOUR HUNDRED FEET. FIFTY FEET BELOW THE TOP WILL BE THE FIRST STROBE LIGHT. THEN THERE'LL BE A SECOND STROBE LIGHT TWENTY-FIVE FEET BELOW THAT, AND A THIRD A FURTHER TWENTY-FIVE FEET BELOW.
AS I THOUGHT -- A SKY-HOOK

*FX SHFF
*FX WHA--?
*FX H YAAH!
*FX HUH?
*FX VRRRMMM VRRRMMM

F.X. √RRMM √RRMM √RRMM
CANDY AND MIGHTY


FX WHOOOSH
OUR CALL CODE IS WO AI NI! *
*FX WHOOOSH
*wo ai ni: I love you.

APPROACHING A COAST-LINE!
I WILL FEEL YOU SQUIRM AND YELP
AND AT LAST DO YOU CRAP OUT?
IT'S NEWPORT BEACH! I'M OVER BALBOA BAY!!


*FX SPLAASHH
*FX BEEP BEEP
WHAT THE HELL'S HE DOING?
I SPECIFICALLY TOLD HIM TO SEND UP A FLARE!
*FX RRM RRM RRM RRM
AAAA!AAA!

*FX FWOOSHH
HUH?!
*FX SHKK

*FX CHOK!
*FX SHJKK
*FX ARRGH!
*FX SPLASH
*FX AAAAH!
*FX UHHJHH
わ
わ
*FX VRRVRRVRRMMM
*FX VRRRRRRRR

H-HELP!! PLEASE!!
TH-THERE'S SOMEONE... IN THE WATER... SOMEONE ELSE!!
IT WASN'T LEE, THE CONTACT!! MOTHERFUCKER MUST'VE KILLED HIM!!

FIND HIM! FIND HIM AND FUCKING KILL HIM!!
YOU KNOW WHY HE CUT YOU TWO ASSHOLES?
HE CUT YOU SO YOU'D SEE ALL THE BLOOD, PANIC, AND COME RUNNING RIGHT BACK TO US, SO HE COULD FOLLOW YOU HERE ON A WIRE HOOKED UP TO YOUR BOAT.

AND WHILE WE'VE BEEN STANDING AROUND HERE MAKING ALL THIS RACKET PORTSIDE, HE'S SNUCK INTO ONE OF THE CABINS!
*FX WHA ?
*FX HJH?
IT'S FREE-MAN.
THIS MAN KILLED LEE, TOOK HIS PLACE, AND CAME ALL THE WAY HERE HANGING DOWN OFF A C130...
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH... NOW THINGS ARE GET-TING INTER-ESTING!
AIN'T NO ONE LIKE THAT IN THE WONG FAMILY!

PUT ON YOUR GAS MASKS!
DON'T LOSE YOUR HEADS!
HAHAHA HAHAHA... HOPE YOU'D LIKE SOME SLEEPING GAS!
YOU IN THERE, FREEMAN?

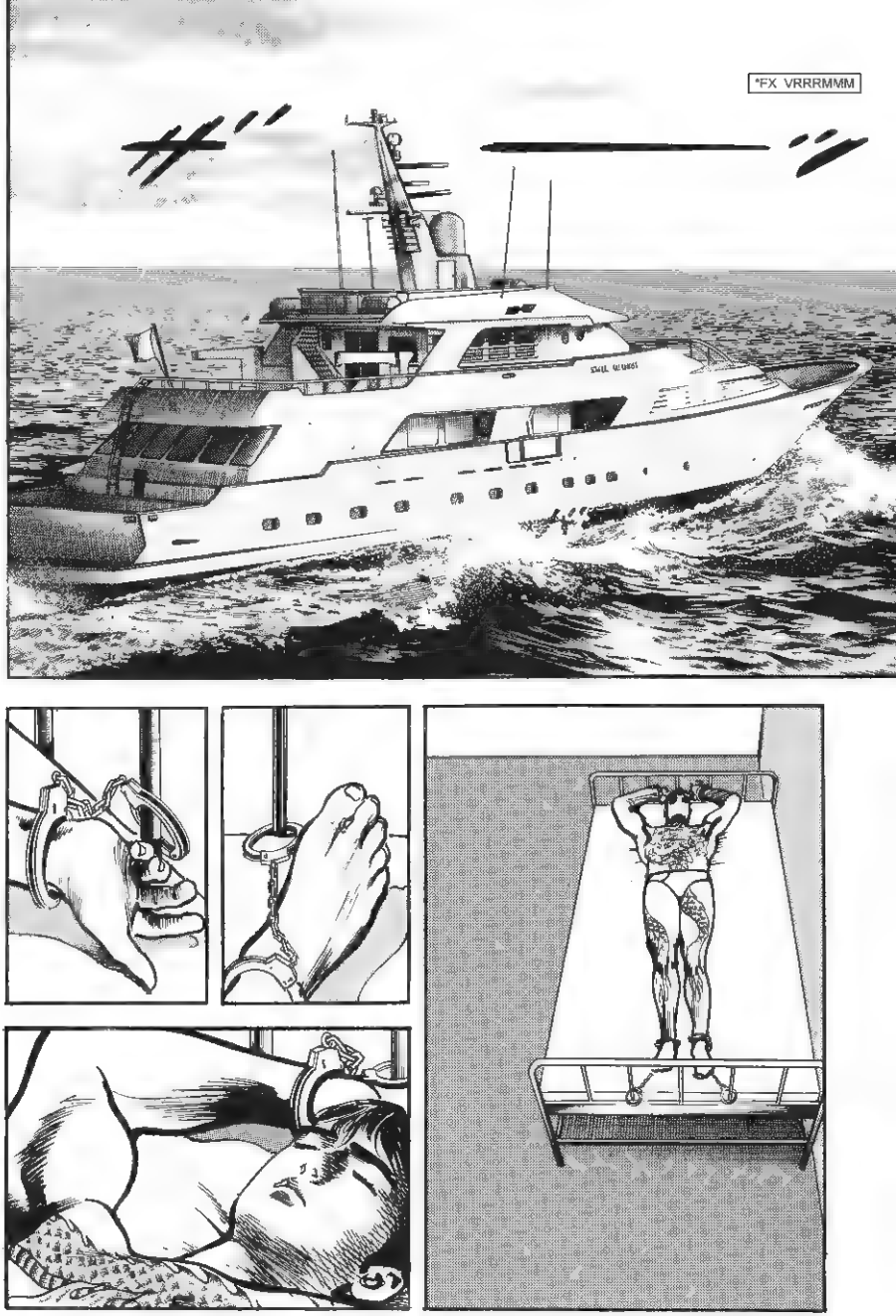
HAHA
HAHA
HAHA
HAHA
HAHA
HAHA
!!
*FX HSSSSS
*FX HSSS HSSS
*FX SMILE

*FX YAWN
SLEEPING GAS... HUH...
*FX FWUMP

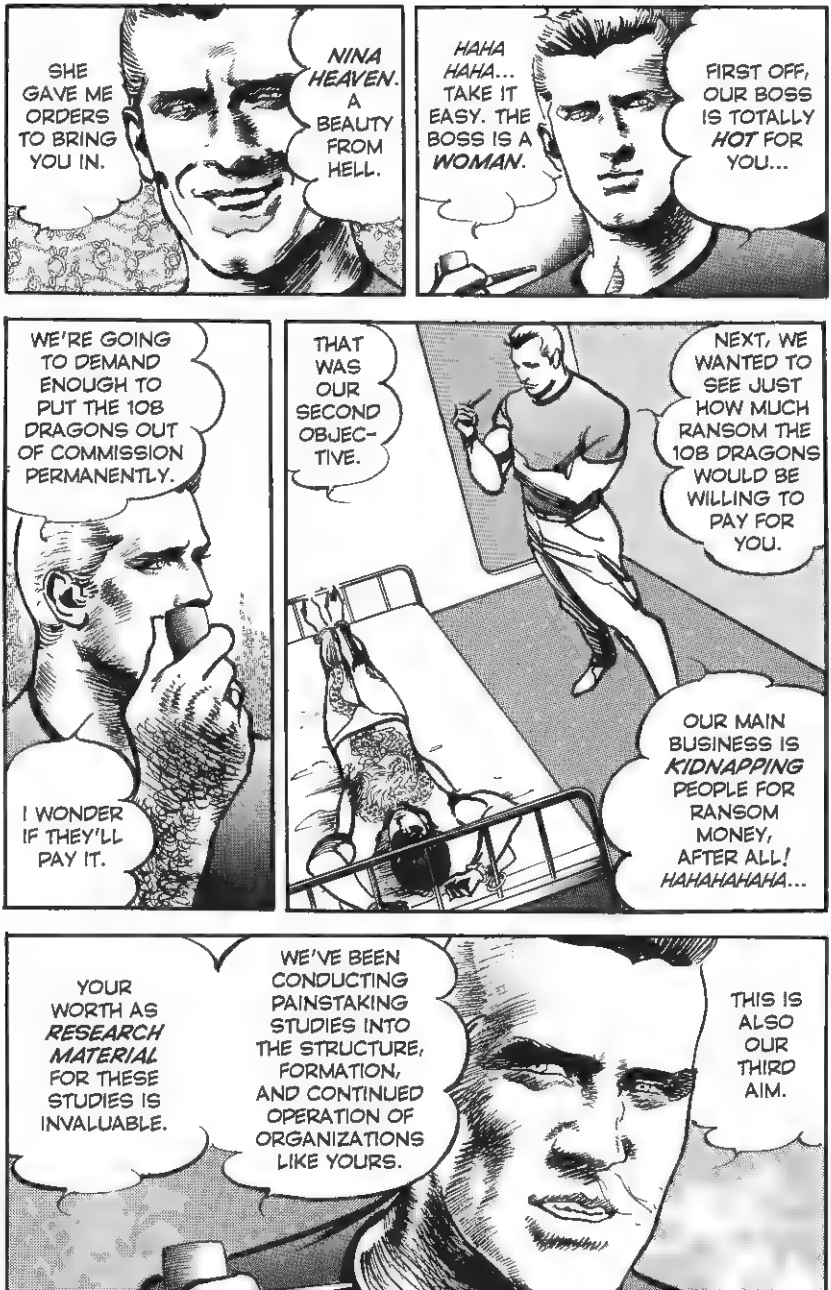
THE POMEGRANATES

CHAPTER 5

第11話 吉祥果(5)


*FX VRRRMMM

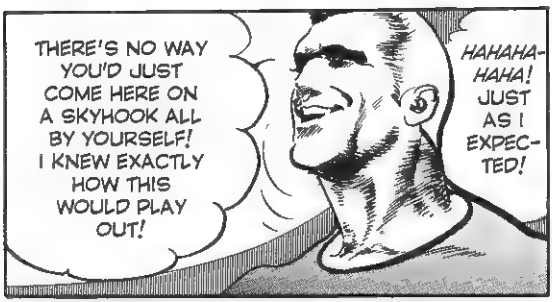
*FX GRIN
THE NAME'S BOYD. *LUCKY BOYD.* *HAHAHAHAHAHA...* THEY CALL ME THAT 'CAUSE MY LUCK'S SO GOOD, SEE?
FINALLY AWAKE, *HUH*, FREE-MAN?
BUT YOU CAN JUST CALL ME *LUCKY*.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'VE CAUGHT A REAL LIVE DRAGON.
THAT'S SOME TATTOO YOU'VE GOT.


SHE GAVE ME ORDERS TO BRING YOU IN.
NINA HEAVEN. A BEAUTY FROM HELL.
HAHA HAHA... TAKE IT EASY. THE BOSS IS A WOMAN.
FIRST OFF, OUR BOSS IS TOTALLY HOT FOR YOU...
WE'RE GOING TO DEMAND ENOUGH TO PUT THE 108 DRAGONS OUT OF COMMISSION PERMANENTLY.
I WONDER IF THEY'LL PAY IT.
THAT WAS OUR SECOND OBJECTIVE.
NEXT, WE WANTED TO SEE JUST HOW MUCH RANSOM THE 108 DRAGONS WOULD BE WILLING TO PAY FOR YOU.
OUR MAIN BUSINESS IS KIDNAPPING PEOPLE FOR RANSOM MONEY, AFTER ALL! HAHAHAHAHA...
YOUR WORTH AS RESEARCH MATERIAL FOR THESE STUDIES IS INVALUABLE.
WE'VE BEEN CONDUCTING PAINSTAKING STUDIES INTO THE STRUCTURE, FORMATION, AND CONTINUED OPERATION OF ORGANIZATIONS LIKE YOURS.
THIS IS ALSO OUR THIRD AIM.

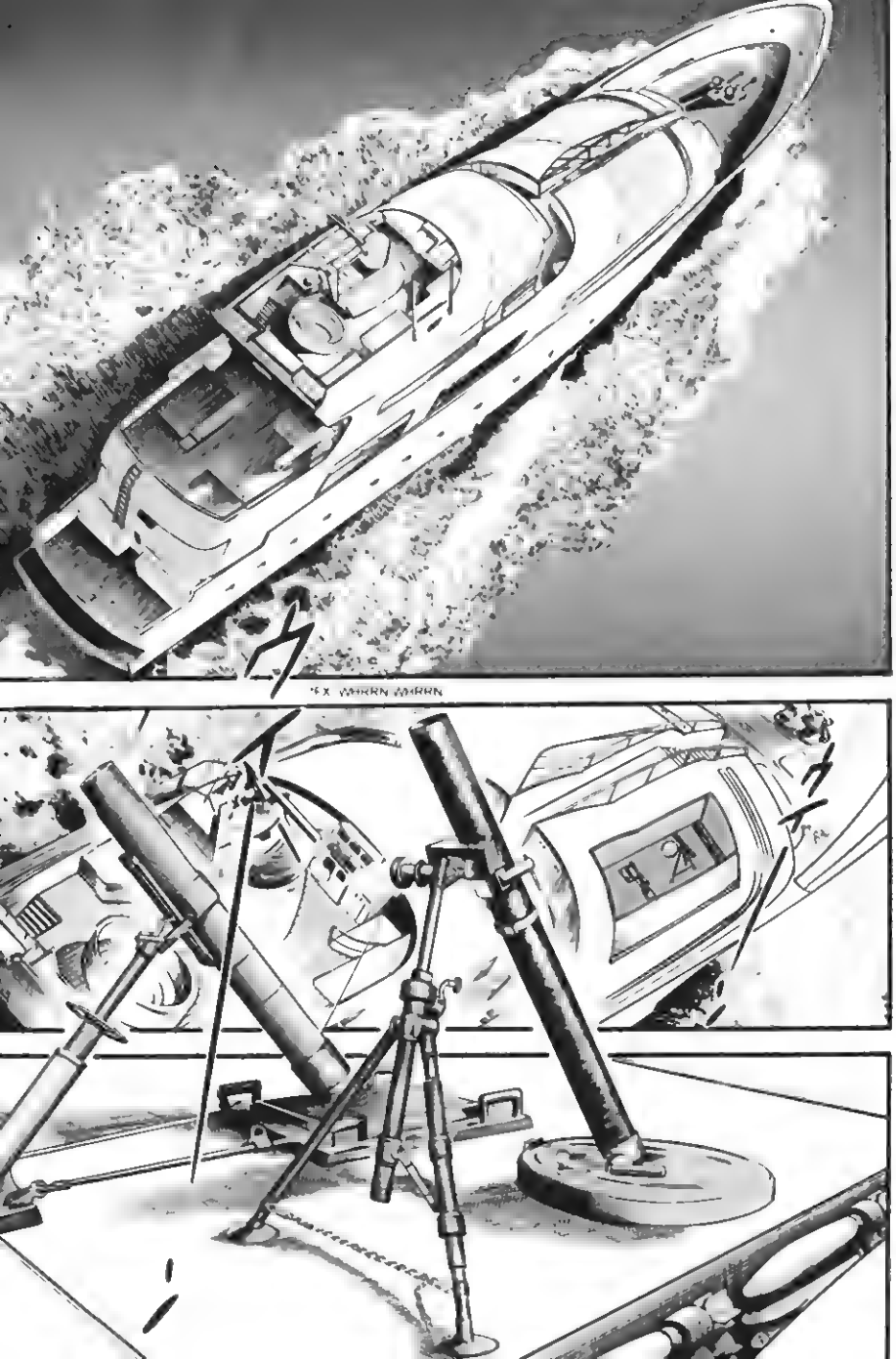
DESTROYING AN ORGANIZATION WITH SUCH BLOODY TRADITIONS AND HISTORY WOULD MAKE THE WHOLE WORLD TREMBLE IN FEAR OF US!
OUR FOURTH AIM IS THE *DESTRUCTION OF YOUR ORGANIZATION.*
IN OTHER WORDS, K.O. WOULD BECOME THE WORLD'S *NUMBER ONE.*

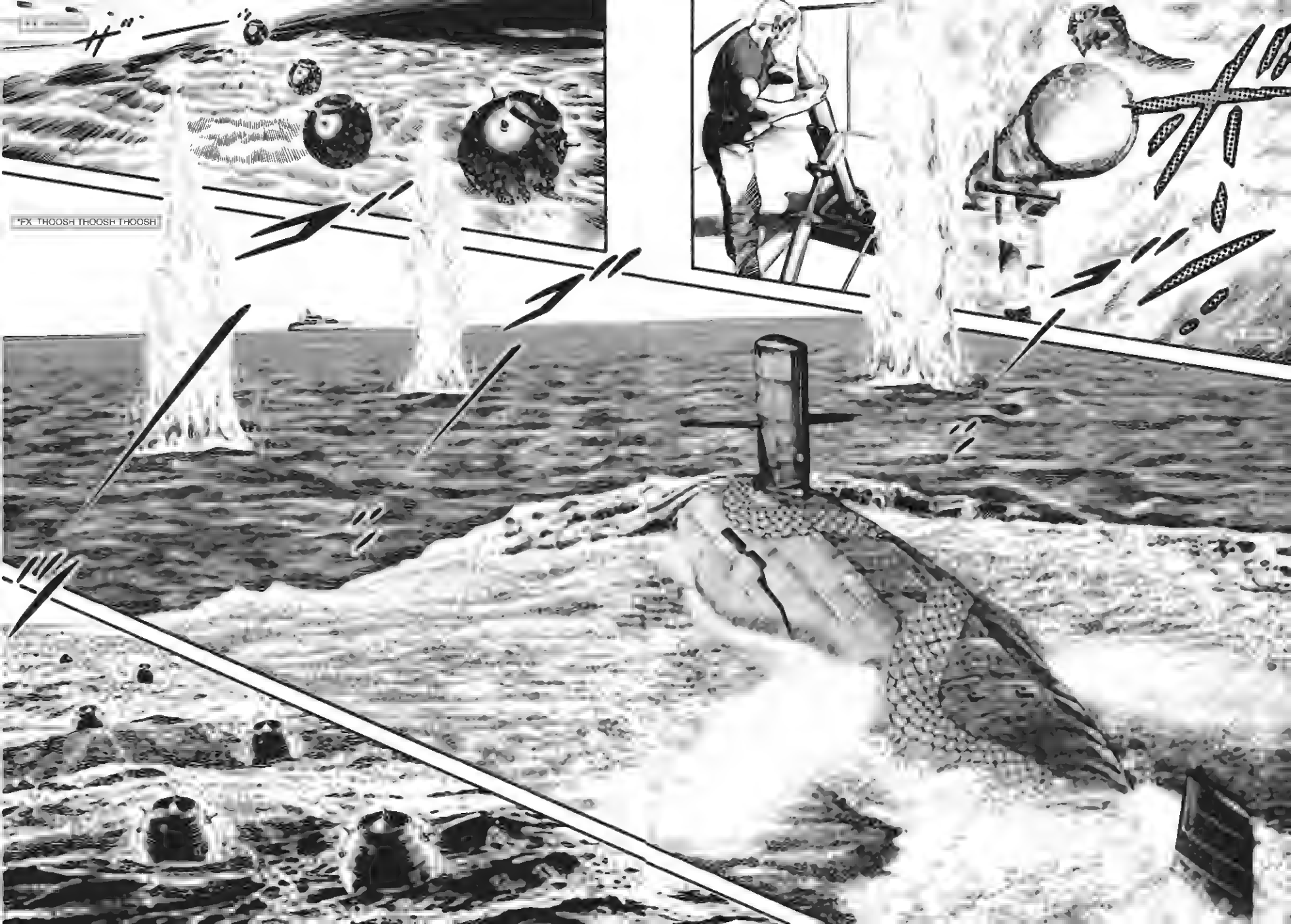
WE'VE PICKED UP THE SCREW PROPELLER SOUNDS OF A SUB-MARINE!

HAHAHAHA! IT'S TIME FOR K.O. TO MAKE HISTORY--THE RISE OF A NEW ORGANIZATION!

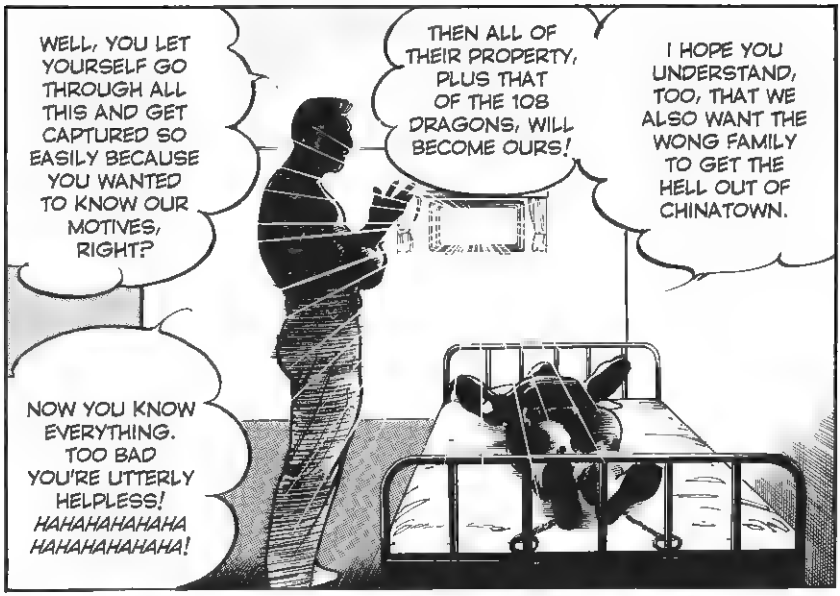

THERE'S NO WAY YOU'D JUST COME HERE ON A SKYHOOK ALL BY YOURSELF! I KNEW EXACTLY HOW THIS WOULD PLAY OUT!
HAHAHA-HAHA! JUST AS I EXPEC-TED!

*FX GRR
TO BATTLE STATIONS!
SIR!
DON'T UNDERESTIMATE US. THIS SHIP MAY LOOK LIKE AN ORDINARY CRUISER, BUT IT'S FITTED OUT LIKE A FRIGATE!
HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA HAHA HA!




*FX. THOOSH THOOSH THOOSH

YOU'RE ALL ON YOUR OWN NOW.
SEEMS THE 108 DRAGONS SUBMARINE JUST BARELY MANAGED TO ESCAPE WITH ITS LIFE. WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO NOW, *HUH*, FREEMAN?
*FX. HAHAHAHAHA
YOU'RE GONNA BE TAKING ON K.O.'S TOP FIGHTERS, AND WE'RE GONNA SEE JUST HOW FAR WE CAN PUSH THAT MIRACULOUS BODY OF YOURS.
THE FIFTH REASON WE CAME AFTER YOU IS BECAUSE THEY SAY YOU'RE THE GREATEST FIGHTER IN THE WORLD. WE'RE GOING TO ANALYZE YOUR TECHNIQUES AND TEST THE LIMITS OF YOUR BODY.
JUST FOR FUTURE REFERENCE, YOU UNDERSTAND? *HAHAHAHAHA!*


WELL, YOU LET YOURSELF GO THROUGH ALL THIS AND GET CAPTURED SO EASILY BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO KNOW OUR MOTIVES, RIGHT?
THEN ALL OF THEIR PROPERTY, PLUS THAT OF THE 108 DRAGONS, WILL BECOME OURS!
I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND, TOO, THAT WE ALSO WANT THE WONG FAMILY TO GET THE HELL OUT OF CHINATOWN.
NOW YOU KNOW EVERYTHING. TOO BAD YOU'RE UTTERLY HELPLESS! HAHAHAHAHAHA HAHAHAHAHAHA!

LET ME SEE THE HOSTAGES.
NO PROB-LEM!

SURE THING! I'LL LET YOU MEET 'EM, BUT FIRST, TAKE THIS.
GOOD!
COME ON! SWALLOW IT! HEH HEH HEH HEH! IT'S JUST A VOMITING AGENT!
*FX CLAK
*FX CLAK

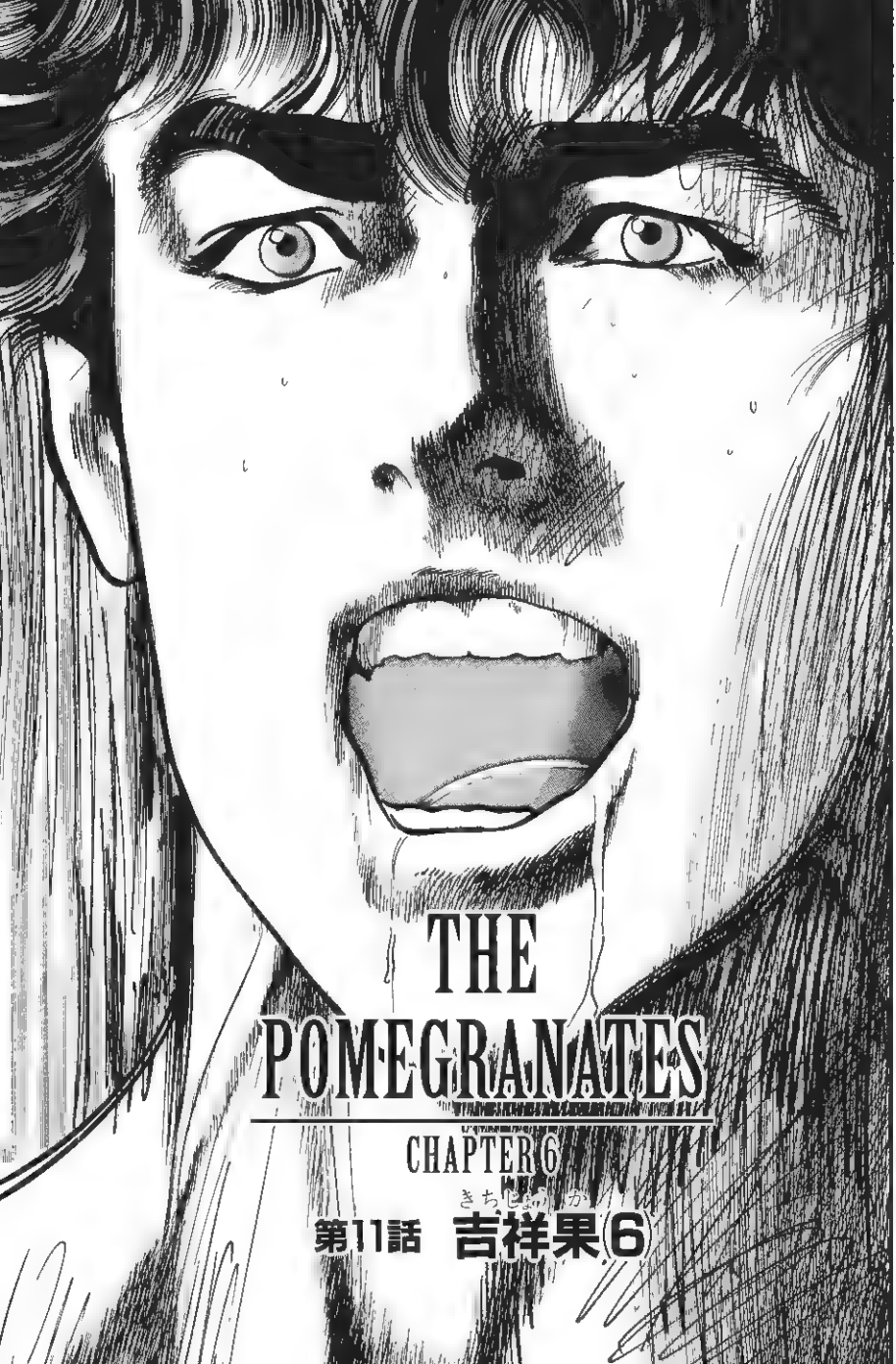
*FX CHAK
*FX POFF POFF

URGH!!
*FX WHJD
*FX HOARRK

*FX HRRK
*FX NGH
*FX NGHH

HAHAHAHAHA! HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN LAST BEFORE VOMIT STUFFS YOUR WINDPIPE AND YOU SUFFOCATE?
KNOWING YOU, I'M GUESSING TWENTY MINUTES. THAT'S ALL THE TIME YOU'VE GOT TO SEE THE HOSTAGES.

NNGGHHH!!



CHAPTER 6

第11話 吉祥果(きちじょうか)6

*FX. NNG GHH GHH GHH
*FX. NGHH NGHH NGHH
*FX. CLICK
SOON YOUR THROAT'LL BE FULL OF PUKE AND THERE WON'T BE ANY SPACE FOR AIR TO GET IN. YOU'LL SUFFOCATE!
THAT VOMIT-INDUCER SURE WORKS GOOD, DOESN'T IT? HAHAHA-HAHAHA!
*FX. NNG GHH GHH GHH

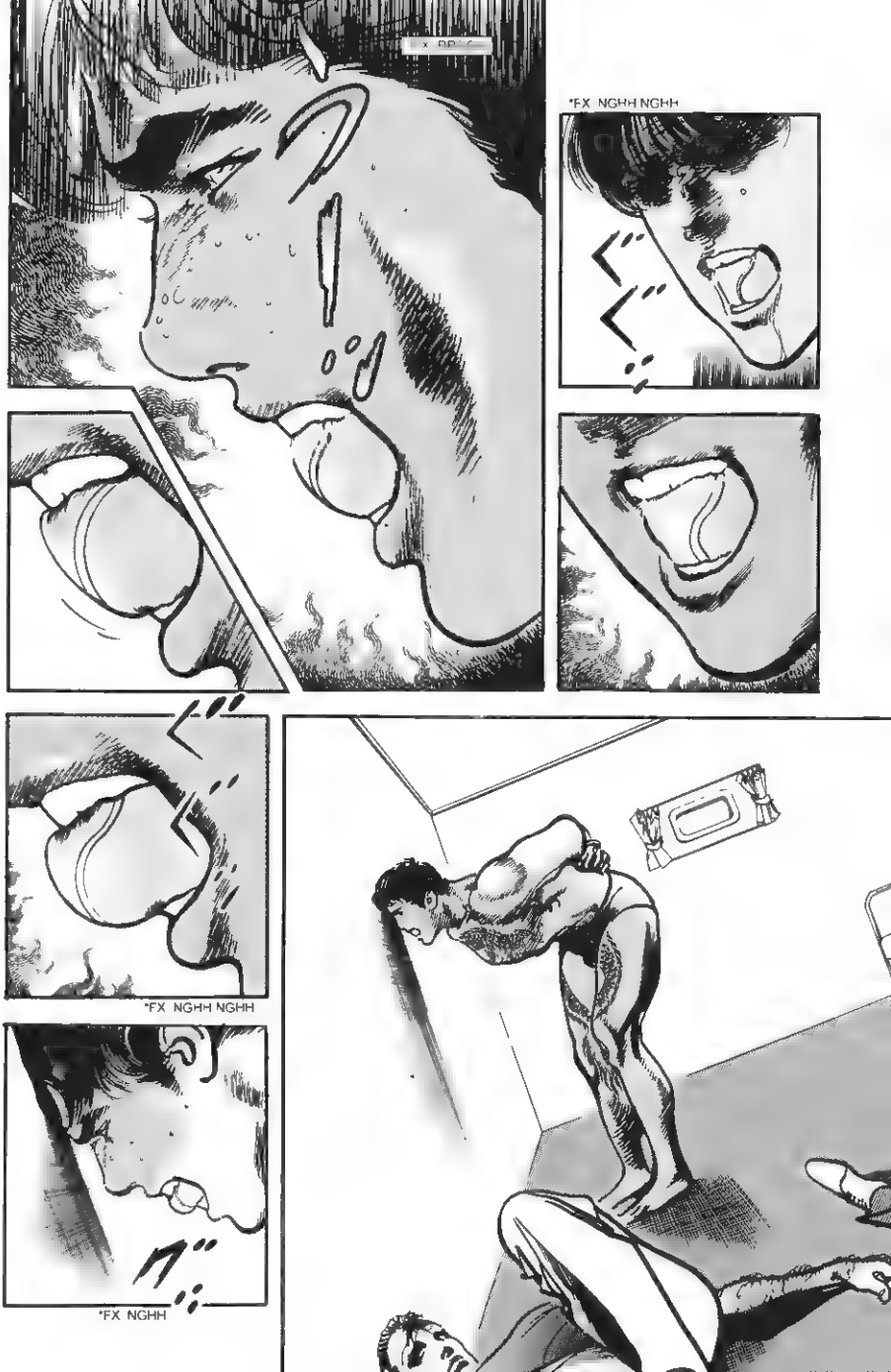
TAKE OFF THE BLIND-FOLDS.
ESP
ESP
<MAMA?>
*FX: HJH? HMM?

NNGG...
THE DAUGHTER'S FINE. BOTH MIND AND BODY. BUT THE PARENTS ARE MINDLESS.
THEY'VE ONLY GOT THE INSTINCTS OF PARENTAL LOVE.

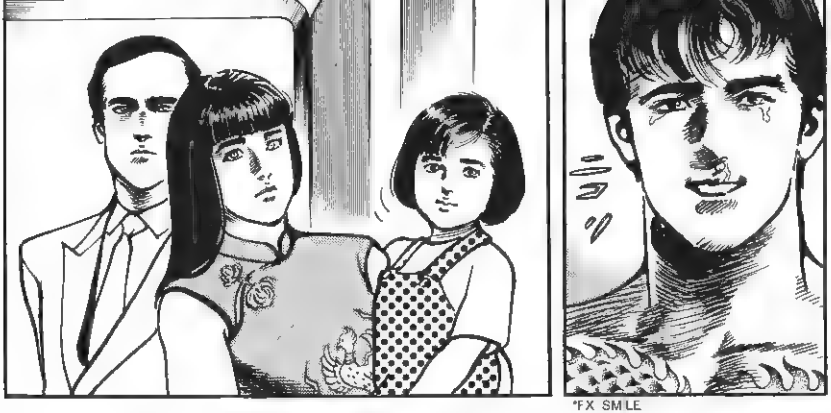
*FX NNGG
*FX GHH GHH
BUT WE NEEDED SOMEONE TO TAKE CARE OF HER...
AS LONG AS I'VE GOT THE LITTLE GIRL, THE WONG FAMILY CAN'T BUDGE AN INCH!
...OR SHE COULD'VE GOTTEN WEAK OR SICK, AND THEN WE'D BE IN A FIX. THAT'S WHY WE KIDNAPPED THE PARENTS AS WELL.
SO THAT'S THE LIMIT, HUH? HEH HEH HEH HEH!
*FX THUD

FX: WHJMP

*FX GA-THUMP
*FX CRAK
*FX ARGH'
*FX HUH ?
*FX BAM
*FX WHUO

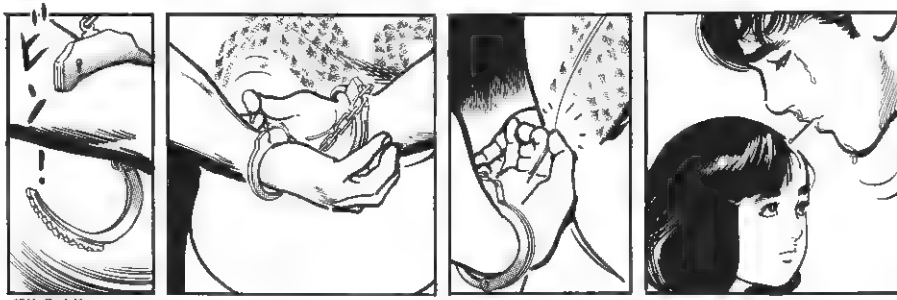

*FX NGHH NGHH
*FX NGHH NGHH
*FX NGHH

*FX SPOP
*FX WHAM
*FX HAHH HAHH HAHH
*FX HOARRK


*FX SMILE

AND THESE PEOPLE AREN'T YOUR PARENTS, ARE THEY?
<NOPE.>
<YOU'RE NOT WO-CI, ARE YOU?>

BUT THESE ARE THE REAL PARENTS...
XIU-HUI!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
NOPE.


*FX CLINK

*FX VRRRMMM
*FX SHFF
AAAH!!
*FX VRRM VRRM VRRM VRRM
*FX WHUD
*FX CRAK

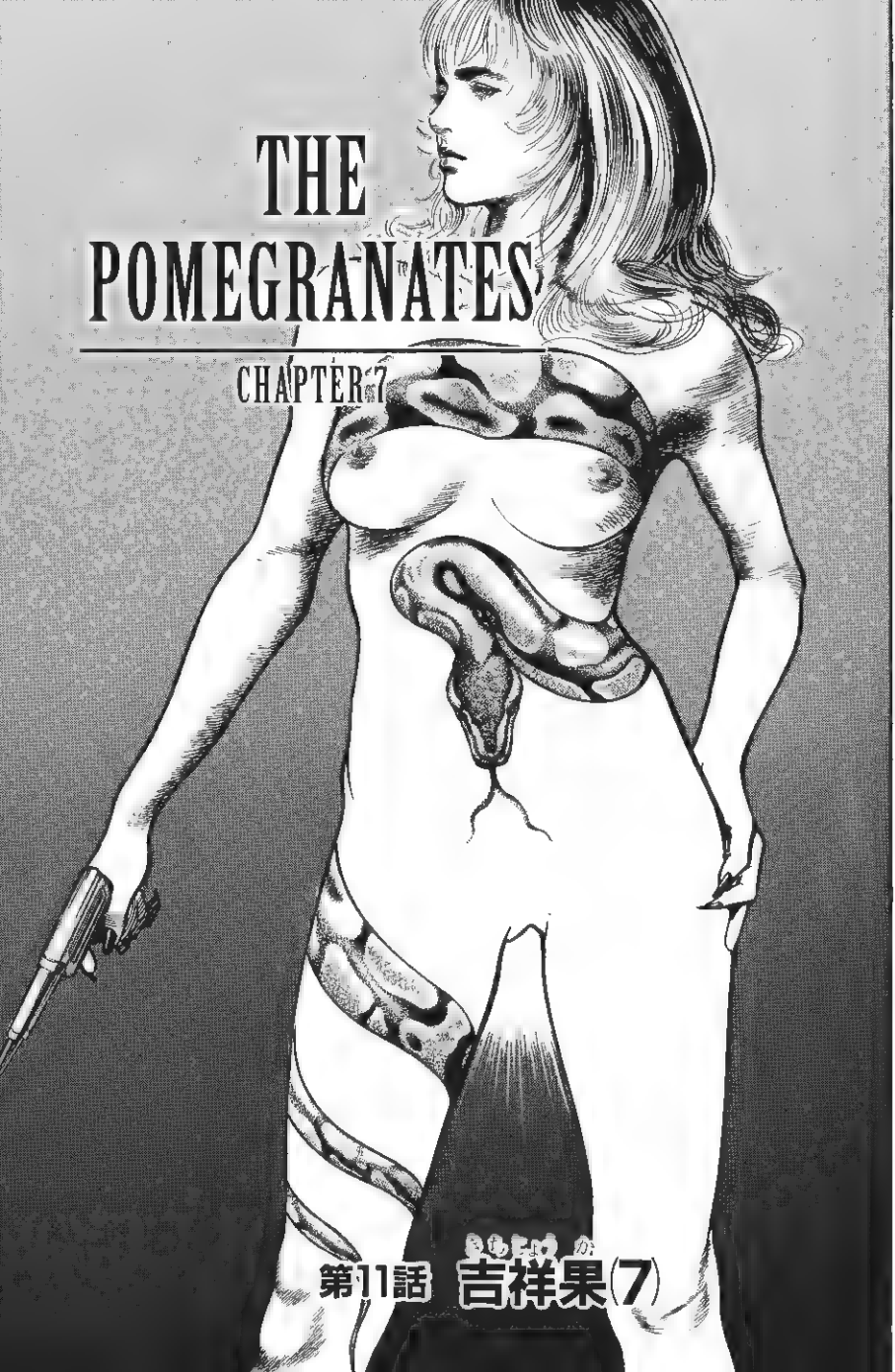
HOW COME WE'RE STOPPING ?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHA--?!
SOME KINDA ENGINE TROUBLE ?!

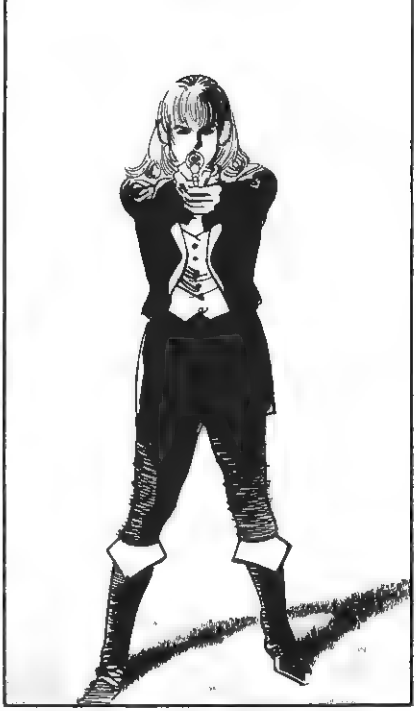
*FX BOKK
*FX THJMP
*FX CRAK
*FX BJDDABLDDABUDDA
*FX WHUMP

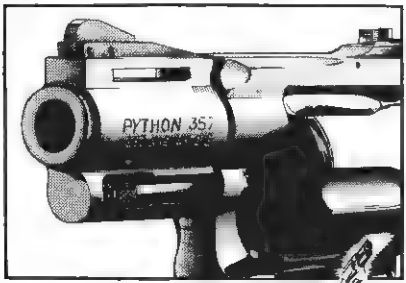
*FX KRACK
*FX ARRGH!
*FX SHUKK
*FX BUDDABUDDA
HEY, BIG BRO-THER!
YOU WERE JUST IN TIME!
I'M ALWAYS JUST IN TIME!

*FX HRRK
*FX WHMP
RGHH...

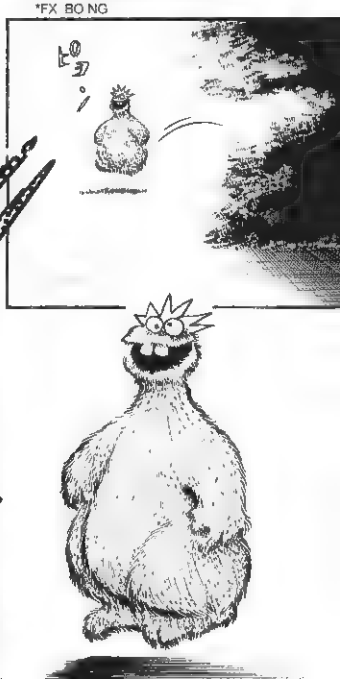
NGHH...
NGHH...!
I'LL TRADE THE CRUISER AND THE LIVES OF EVERYONE ON BOARD FOR WO-CI.
CALL HEADQUARTERS, LUCKY.
HAHAHAHAHA... I SUPPOSE SO. WELL, THEN, YOU'D BETTER TAKE US THERE YOURSELF!
HAHAHA HAHAHA! YOU'RE SAYING THEY WON'T TRADE AND THEY'LL JUST ABANDON YOU?

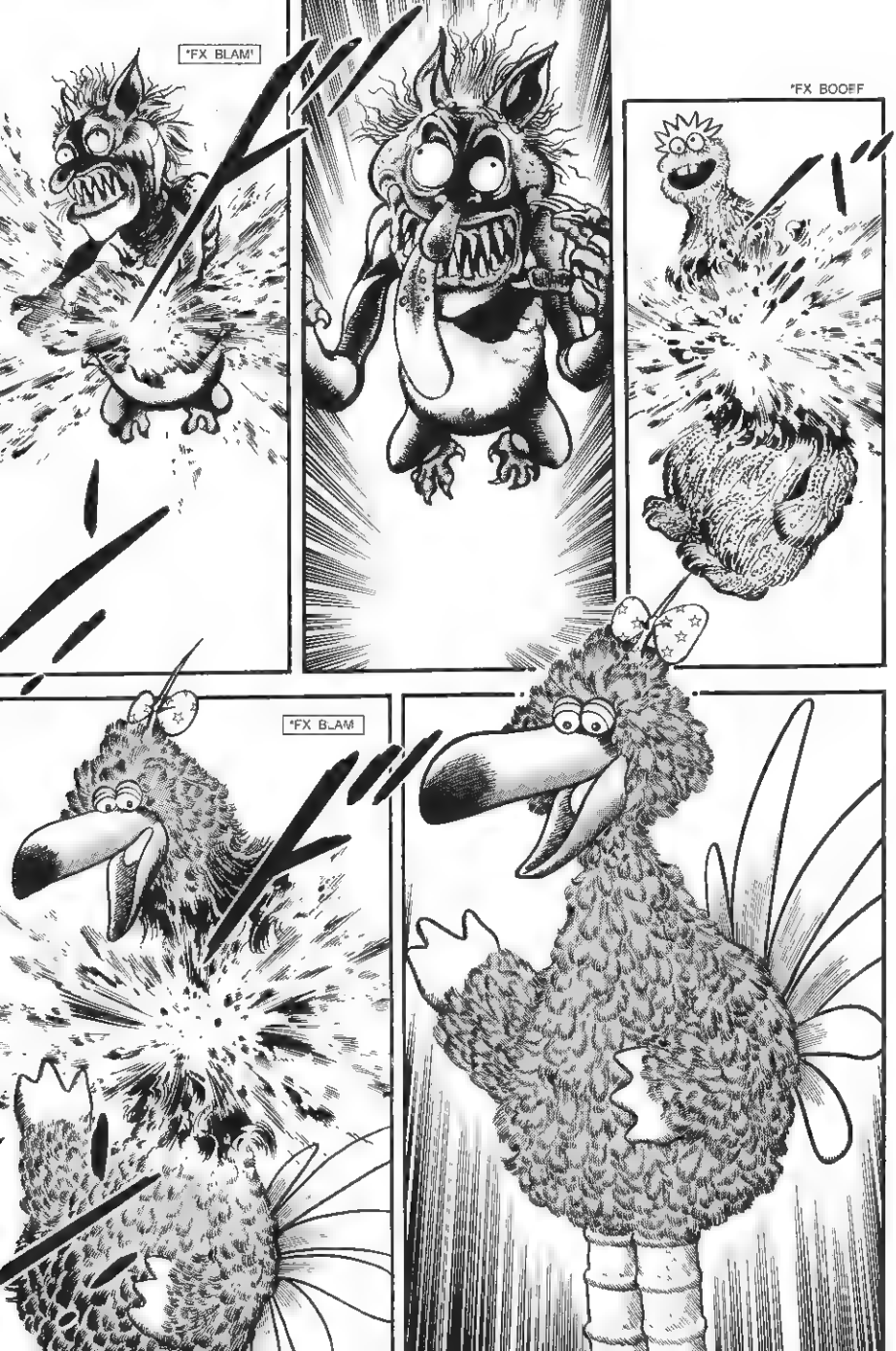

THE
POMEGRANATES
CHAPTER 7
第11話 吉祥果(7)




PYTHON 357

*FX BLAM


*FX BO NG


*FX BLAM!
*FX BOOFF
*FX BLAM

*FX HJH?
*FX SHFF
YOU DON'T DO WHAT I TELL YOU, I REALLY WILL SHOOT YOU!!
STOP IT!!
WAAAAHH!
*FX BLAMM
*FX WHUB

*FX BLAMM!
*FX SPTCH
*FX FWWAAASSHHH
SHIT! I ALMOST SHOT HER! I LOSE POINTS FOR THAT!
*FX WAAAHH WAAAHH
あああぁ
*FX HUH?

*FX BLAM BLAM BLAM
*FX SHEE
*FX POP
*FX POP
*FX POP
WHAT?!
WE'VE RECEIVED A DISTRESS CALL FROM HEART OF MARINE!

THEY SAY FREEMAN WANTS TO MAKE A TRADE FOR OUR PRISONERS HERE ...
WELL, NOW... I ALWAYS KNEW FREEMAN HAD IT IN HIM! A-HAHAHAHA!
IT SEEMS THE SHIP'S BEEN CAPTURED, AND LIEUTENANT BOYD, THE ENTIRE CREW, AND HEART OF MARINE ITSELF ARE NOW UNDER FREEMAN'S CONTROL.
WHAT DOES LARRY HAVE TO SAY?
HE'S GOING TO LAUNCH AN ATTACK. HE'S ALREADY LEFT.
HAHA-HAHA! MOVES FAST, DOESN'T HE?

*FX VRRRMMM
IT'S OBVIOUS, LOOKING AT HOW SCARED LUCKY AND HIS CREW ARE.
THEY AREN'T GONNA TRADE HOSTAGES, ARE THEY, BRO? NO WAY!
...SO WHICH WAY'RE THEY GONNA ATTACK US?
I HEARD GREEN BERETS ARE AWESOME AT SKY-DIVING *AND* SCUBA DIVING...
...SO THEY'LL ATTACK FROM ABOVE. I'LL BE FORCED TO DIVE INTO THE SEA, THEN THEY'LL ATTACK AGAIN UNDERWATER AND CAPTURE ME.
THEY NEED TO CAPTURE ME ALIVE...

*FX VRRMMM
*FX VRRMMM
AND THE DRAGON SUB STILL CAN'T GET THROUGH THE MINEFIELD!
EX-GREEN BERETS, HUH...? OLD-FASHIONED, AREN'T THEY?
SO THIS IS EVERY-THING K.O.'S GOT?

WHOA
...

*FX. FWUPP FWUPP

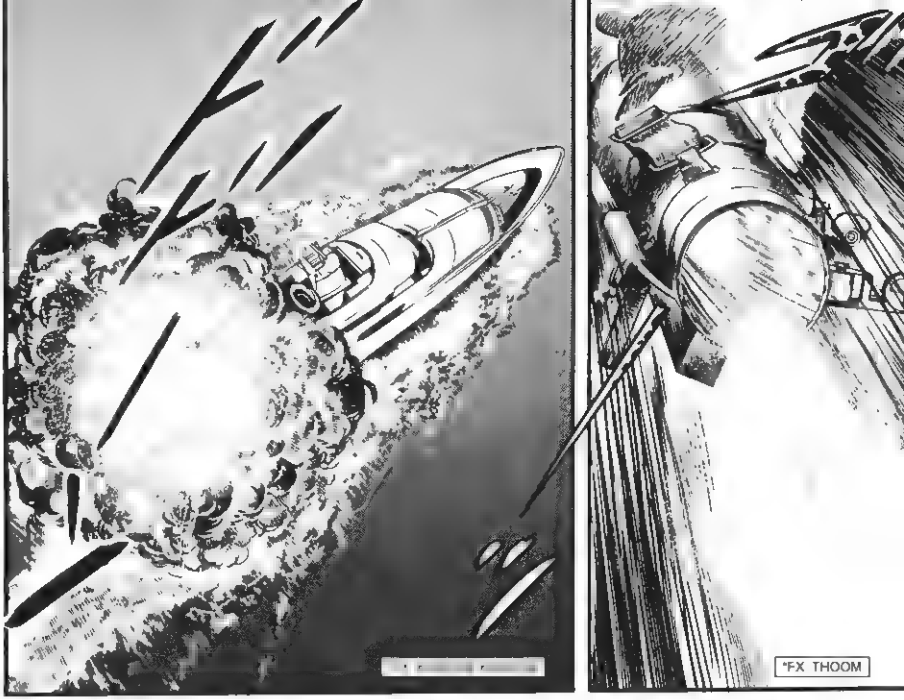
THEY'RE HOPING TO RECAPTURE THIS SHIP AND TAKE IT BACK WITH THEM.
THAT CAN'T HAPPEN.

FULL SPEED AHEAD!
A-HA! SO WE'RE RUNNIN' AWAY, HUH?

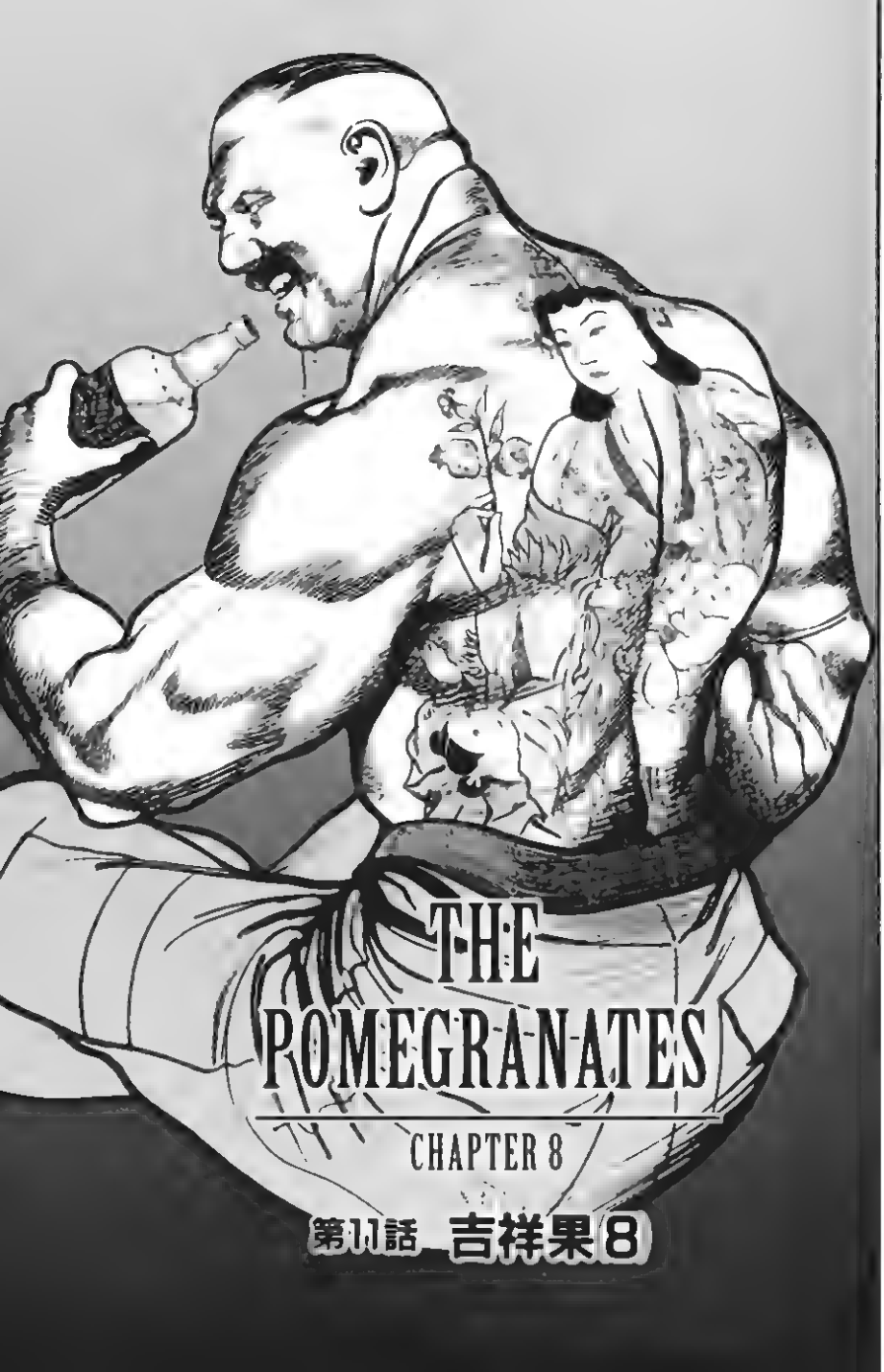
*FX VRRRNNNN
*FX VRRRNNNN
TOO BAD FOR THE GUYS IN THE WATER, TOO!
I NEVER DREAMED WE WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE TO FIGHT 'EM!
HAHAHA-HAHAAH! NOT ONE'A THOSE CHUMPS LANDED ON THE DECK! HAHAHA-HAHA!

I'LL KEEP THEM OCCUPIED WHILE YOU GO RESCUE WO-CI!
TIME FOR YOU TO GET MOVING, BAI YA SHAN. THEY STILL HAVEN'T NOTICED YOU YET!
YES, BIG BRO-THER!
IT'S THAT COASTLINE UP THERE. HOPEFULLY LUCKY WASN'T LYING.
FX SP_OOOSHH

*FX VRRRNNNN


*FX THOOM

*FX GRIN
TIME TO DIVE FOR YOUR LIFE, FREEMAN! PLAY TIME'S OVER!!


THE
POMEGRANATES
CHAPTER 8
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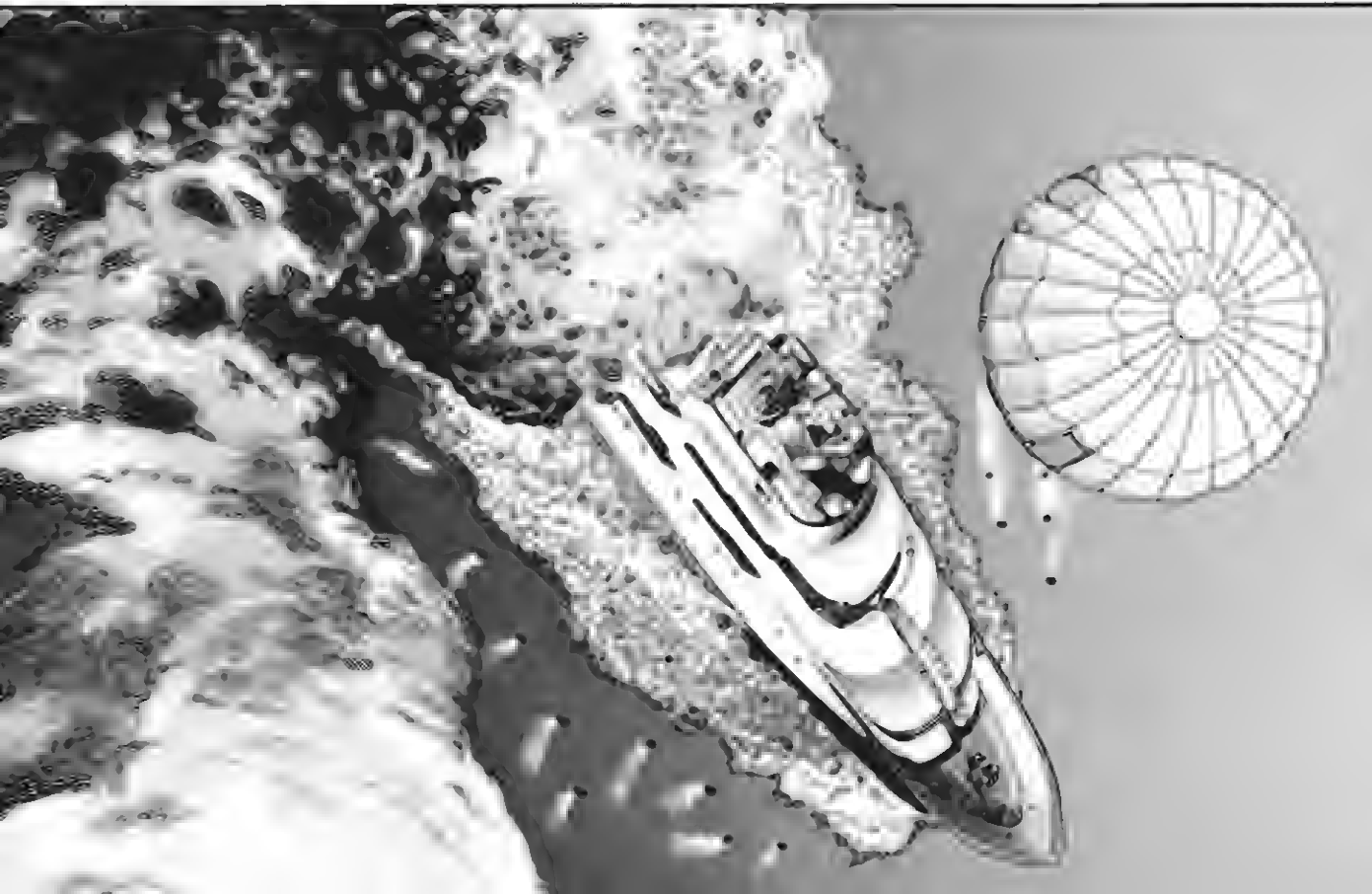
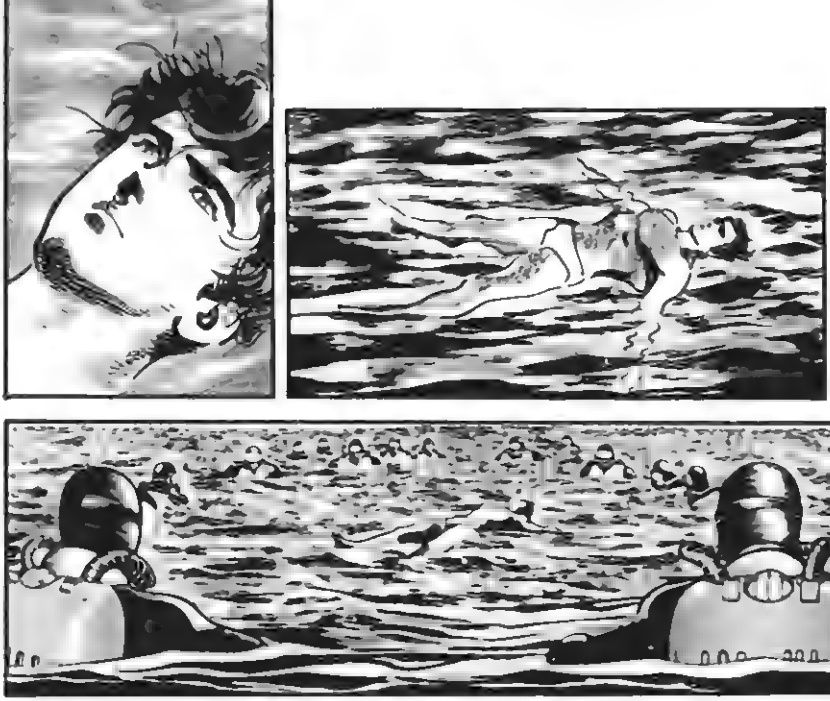
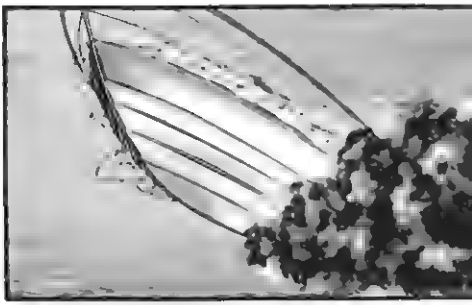
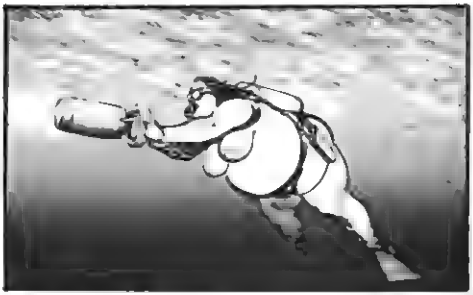


PUT OUT THOSE FIRES!!
WHERE'S FREEMAN ?!
*FX THWACK THWACK THWACK



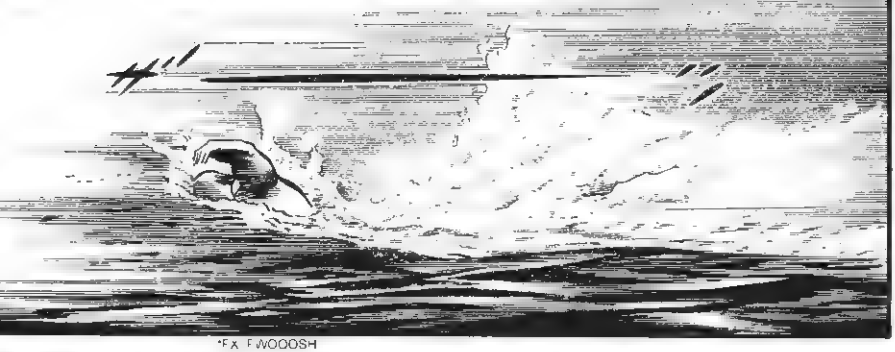
*FX: POOFF POOFF





*FX PLP
*FX WHOOSH
WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE ADMIRAL OF THE 108 DRAGONS! I'M LIEU-TENANT LARRY BUCK!
HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA!

*FX CRAKK
TOO FUCKIN' SLOPPY, LUCKY! HAHAHA HAHAHA!
BWA-HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHAHA HAHA!

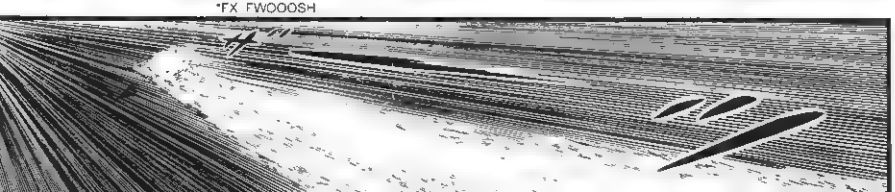


*FX FWOOOSH

*FX FWOOOSH

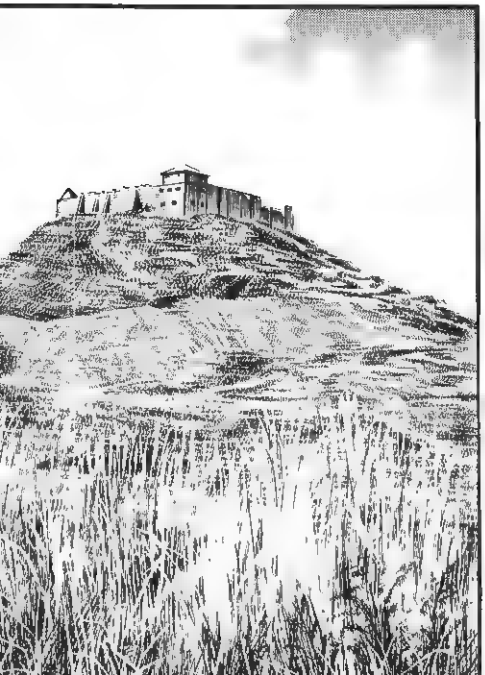
YOU LEAVE THE REST TO BAI YA SHAN HERE!
YOU GOTTA BUY ME SOME TIME, BIG BRO! KEEP 'EM AWAY FROM ME AS LONG AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN! KEEP 'EM BUSY!

*FX FWOOOSH



*FX WHSHH WHSHH
*FX YRRK
*FX ARGGHH
*FX AAAH!
*FX HAHAHAHAHA

*FX HJH?

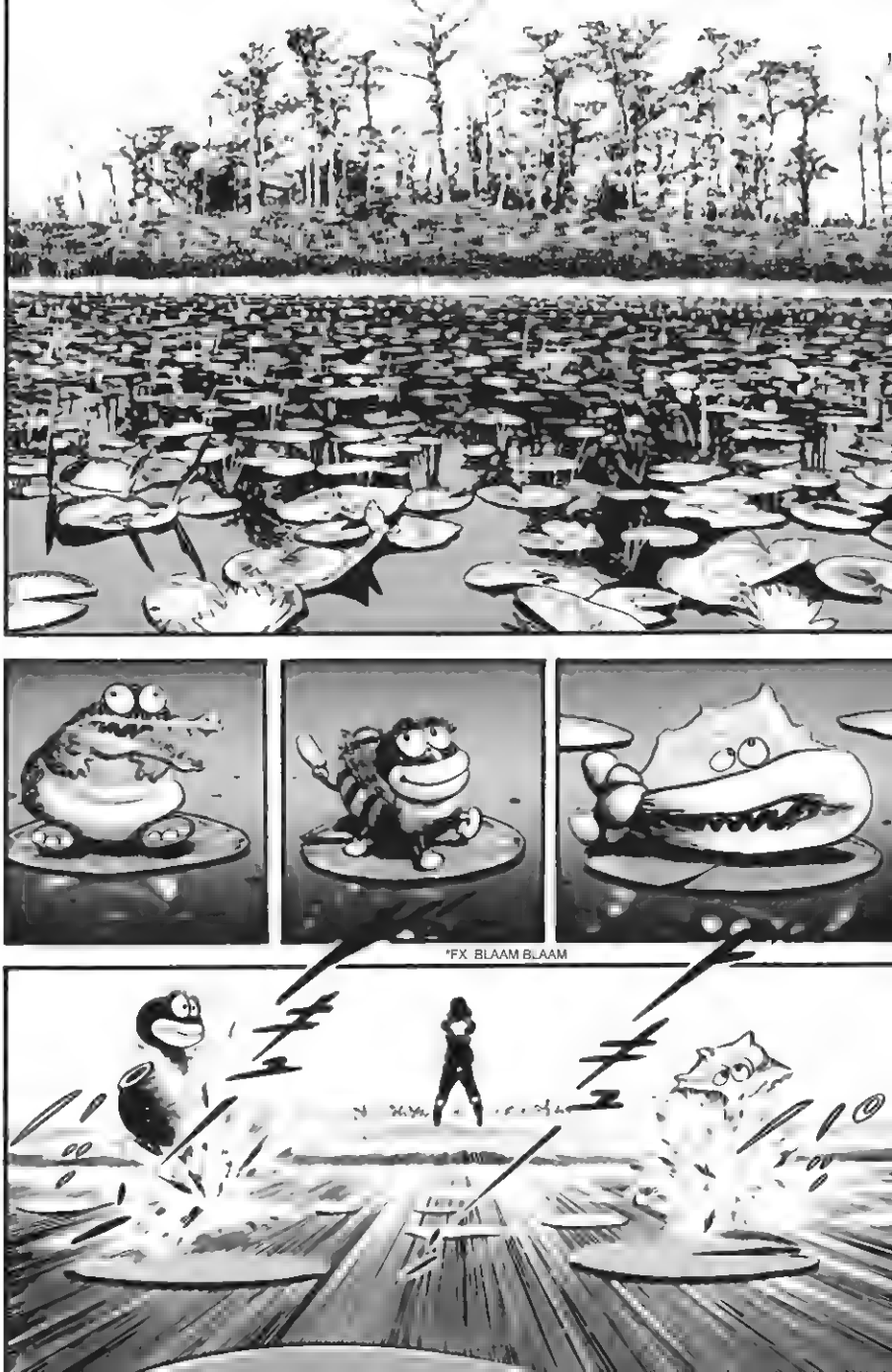


SHIT!
AAH!
*FX KRUNCH

*FX. FWAASHH
*FX. PAT PAT!
*FX. B_AAM B_AAM
*FX. HUH?

*FX THWACK
*FX WHOOSH
*FX WHAM
*FX HRRK

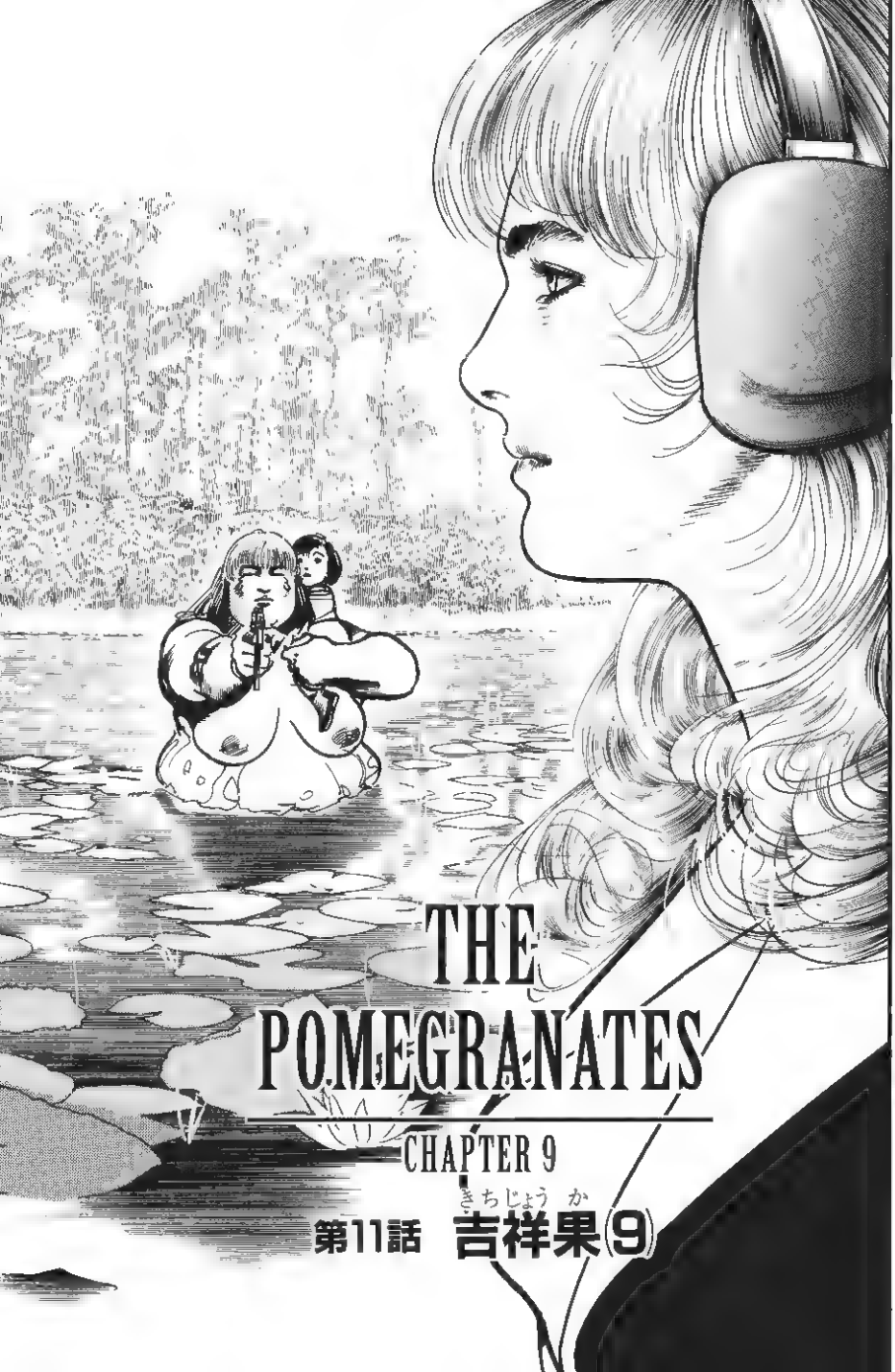
*FX KRAK
*FX YEEARGH
*FX CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
*FX HA HA HA HA HA


*FX BLAAM BLAAM

*FX B_AMM
*FX BOFF
*FX SHSSSS
*FX HUH?!

*FX CLICK
PYTHON .38
*FX SHSSSS
I'VE BEEN COUNTING. YOU GOT NO BULLETS LEFT!

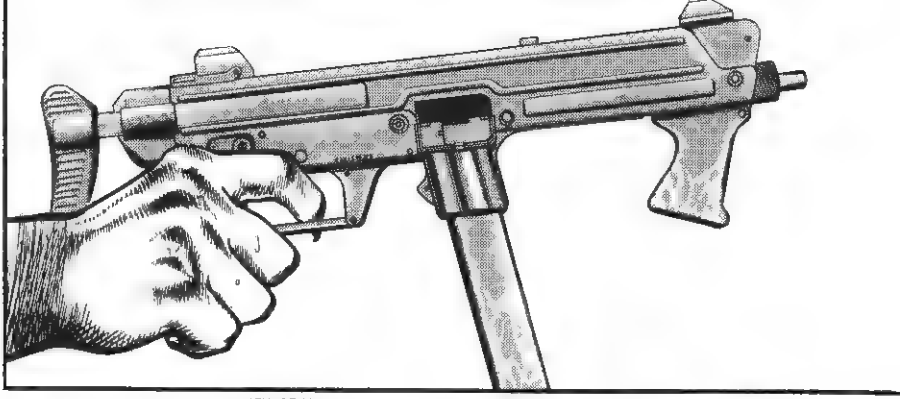
*FX WHACK
RETURN TO BASE! WE GOT US A GREAT CATCH!!



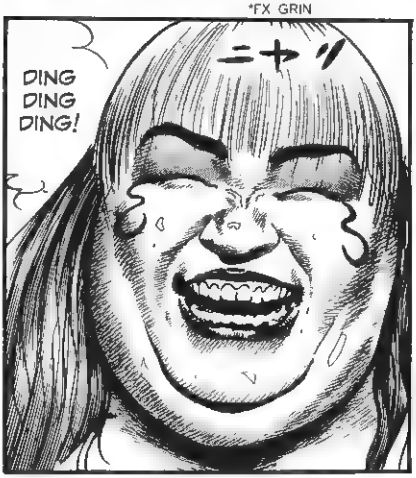
THE POMEGRANATES

CHAPTER 9

第11話 吉祥果(9)



*FX GRIN

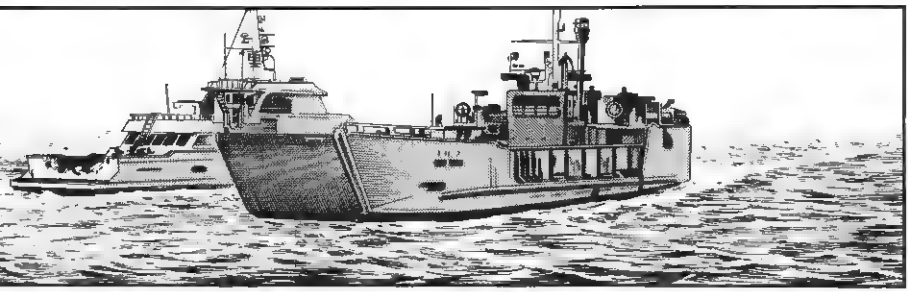


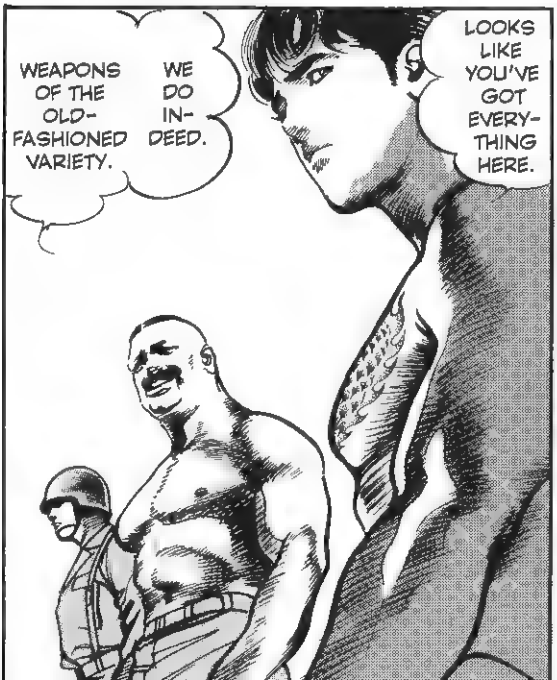
HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?!
YOU COULD COMPETE WITH MY SISTER!
AND YOU MUST BE NINA HEAVEN. BOY, YOU SURE ARE PRETTY!
I TOOK THE BOSS OF K.O. HOSTAGE RIGHT IN HER OWN HEADQUARTERS AND GOT WO-CI BACK TO BOOT!
HAHAHAHA HOHOHO HAHAHA! THIS FEELS GOOD!!
MAJORLY PERFECT! HAHOHO HOHO!
THIS GUY NAMED LUCKY SPILLED THE WHOLE STORY TO MY BRO, AND I GOT IT FROM HIM!
NOW YOU'RE MY HOSTAGE!
*FX YRRK
THAT'S HOW THE 108 DRAGONS DO THINGS!
MY BROTHER CAUSED A BIG OLD DISTRACTION SO I COULD SLIP IN HERE LIKE A SNAKE!

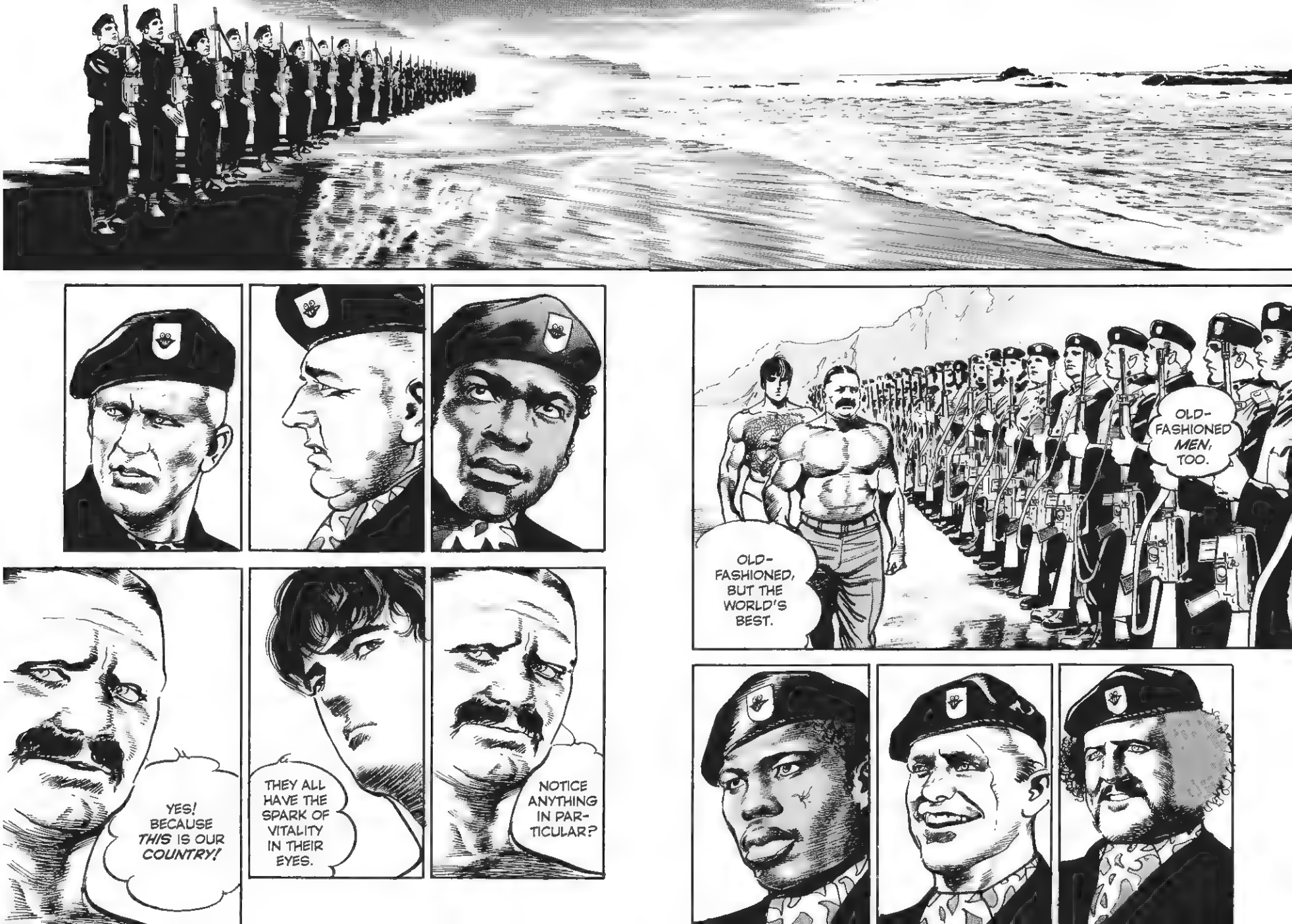
*FX THD THD
THERE, THERE! AUNTIE WILL TAKE YOU RIGHT BACK TO GRAMPA WONG, OKAY?
HEY, DON'T BE SCARED! DON'T BE SCARED!
FREEZE, OR NINA DIES!!
SHEE, I'M ALL THIRSTY! BEER TIME, BEER TIME!!

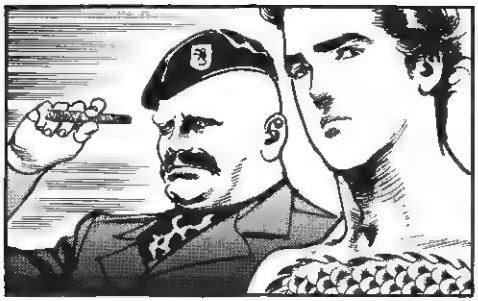
*FX VOOOSH
NOW WE'VE GOT A *REAL* DRAGON FIGUREHEAD FOR OUR SHIP! GAHAHAHA HAHAHA!
*FX VOOOOSH

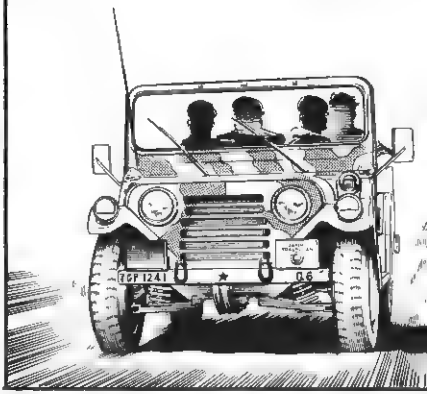
*FX GULP
*FX PLIP PLIP
YOU GO FIRST!
<YUMMY!?>
PHAAAA!
*FX GLUG GLUG
WELL, WHATEVER-- YOU'RE MY HOSTAGE NOW!
I CAN SEE HOW SHOOTING MUPPETS WITH A GUN MIGHT MAKE FOR TARGET PRACTICE, BUT WHERE'S THE FUN IN IT?!
SO, ANYWAY, EVERYWHERE I LOOK YOU'VE GOT THESE MUPPETS ALL OVER THE PLACE.
TRY ANYTHING FUNNY AND I'LL KILL YOU, OKAY?

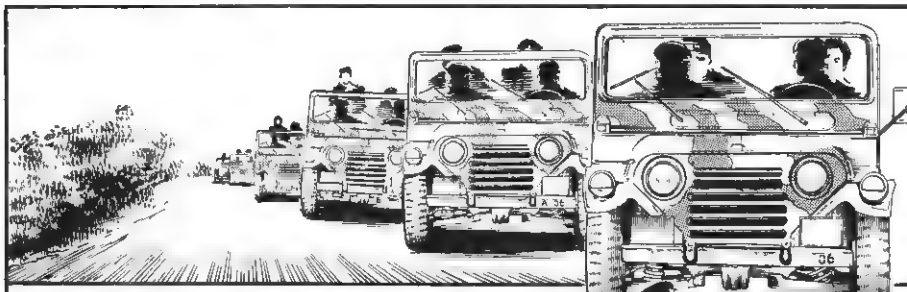


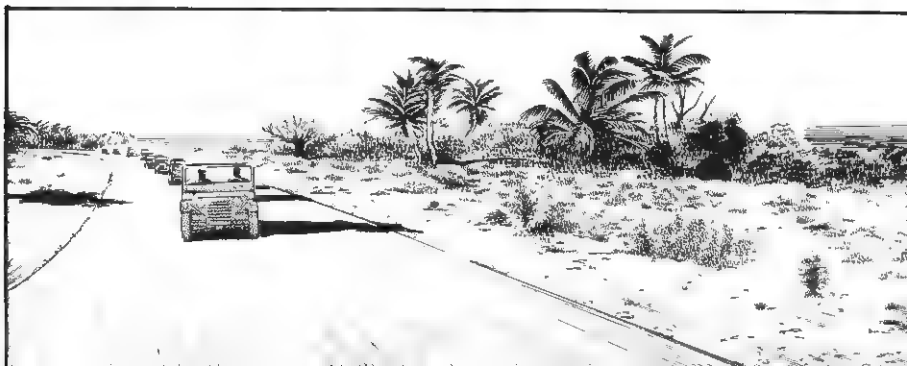

WEAPONS OF THE OLD-FASHIONED VARIETY.
WE DO IN-DEED.
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT EVERY-THING HERE.


OLD-FASHIONED, BUT THE WORLD'S BEST.
OLD-FASHIONED *MEN*, TOO.
YES! BECAUSE *THIS* IS OUR *COUNTRY!*
THEY ALL HAVE THE SPARK OF VITALITY IN THEIR EYES.
NOTICE ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR?



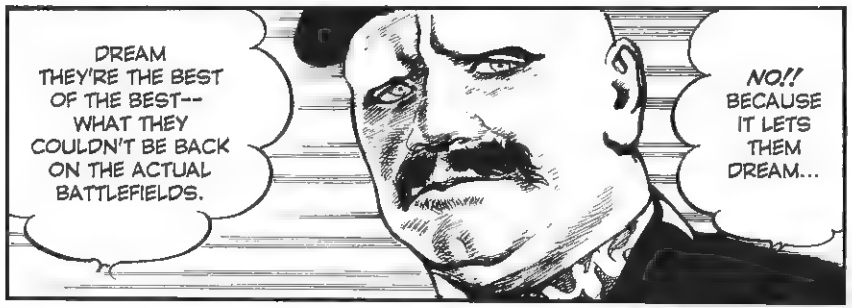


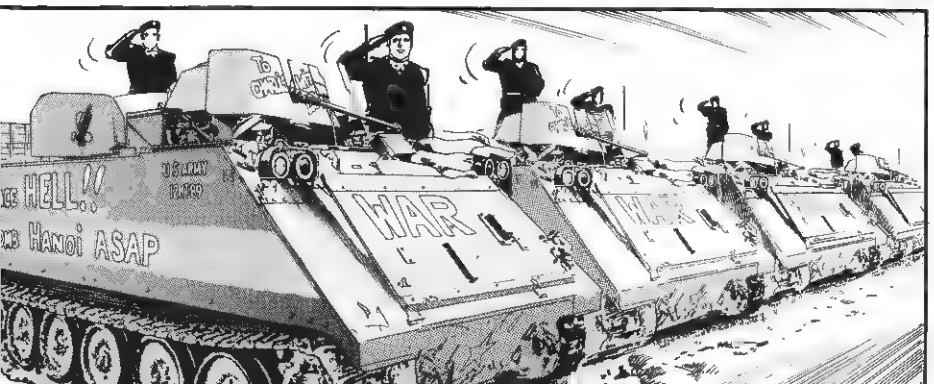


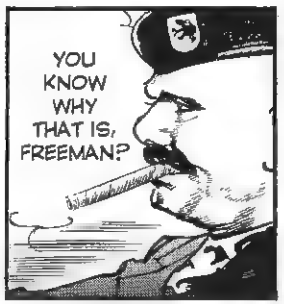


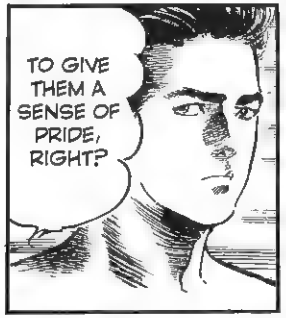
JUST LIKE RAMBO WHEN HE CAME BACK FROM VIETNAM-- THIS PLACE IS CRAWLING WITH 'EM!
THIS IS A COUNTRY OF *RAMBOS*, FREEMAN. YOU READ ME?
.....
SO WE BROUGHT ALL OUR RAMBOS *HERE*.
...'CAUSE THEY'RE *SICK*, SEE? THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO NOTHING BUT *KILL* PEOPLE.
THEY'RE RAMBOS. THEY TRIED TO REPATRIATE, BUT THEY JUST COULDN'T *SURVIVE* IN THE USA...
BUT YOU CAN'T JUST GO AROUND NEW YORK KILLING PEOPLE. LIFE AIN'T SOME MOVIE.

THIS IS A PLACE WHERE THEY KNOW HOW TO LIVE-- ANOTHER VIETNAM.
MARINES
VT 10


DREAM THEY'RE THE BEST OF THE BEST-- WHAT THEY COULDN'T BE BACK ON THE ACTUAL BATTLEFIELDS.
NO!! BECAUSE IT LETS THEM DREAM...


HELL!!
HANOI ASAP

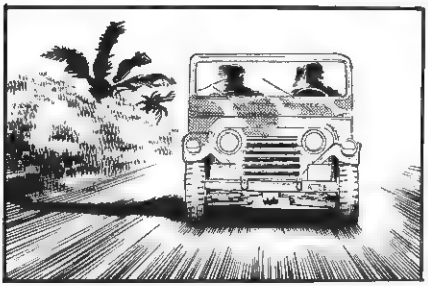

YOU KNOW WHY THAT IS, FREEMAN?


TO GIVE THEM A SENSE OF PRIDE, RIGHT?

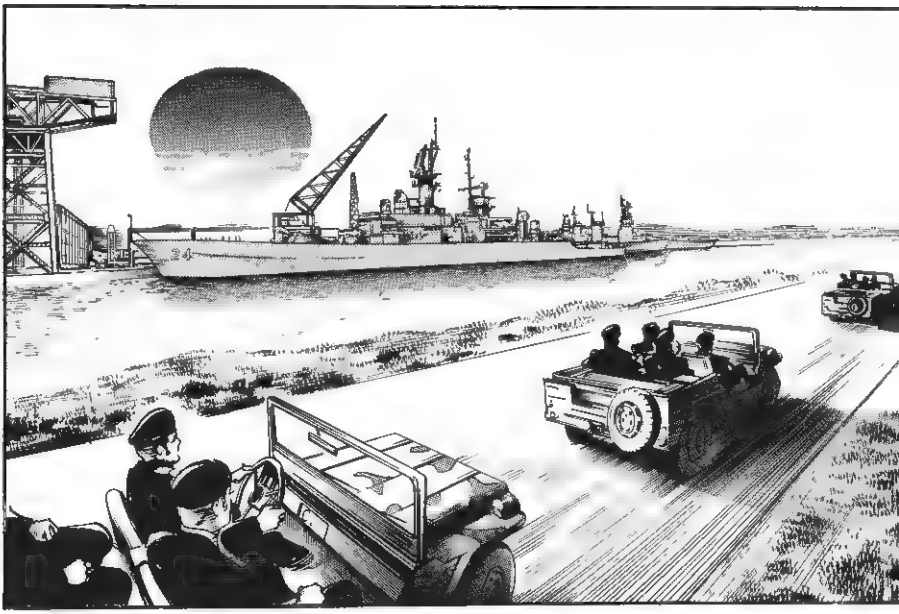
WE'VE PUT TOGETHER ABOUT TWO FULL BATTALIONS. ONLY A HANDFUL OF 'EM ARE ACTUAL GREEN BERETS, BUT OUT HERE EVERYONE GETS TO WEAR ONE.

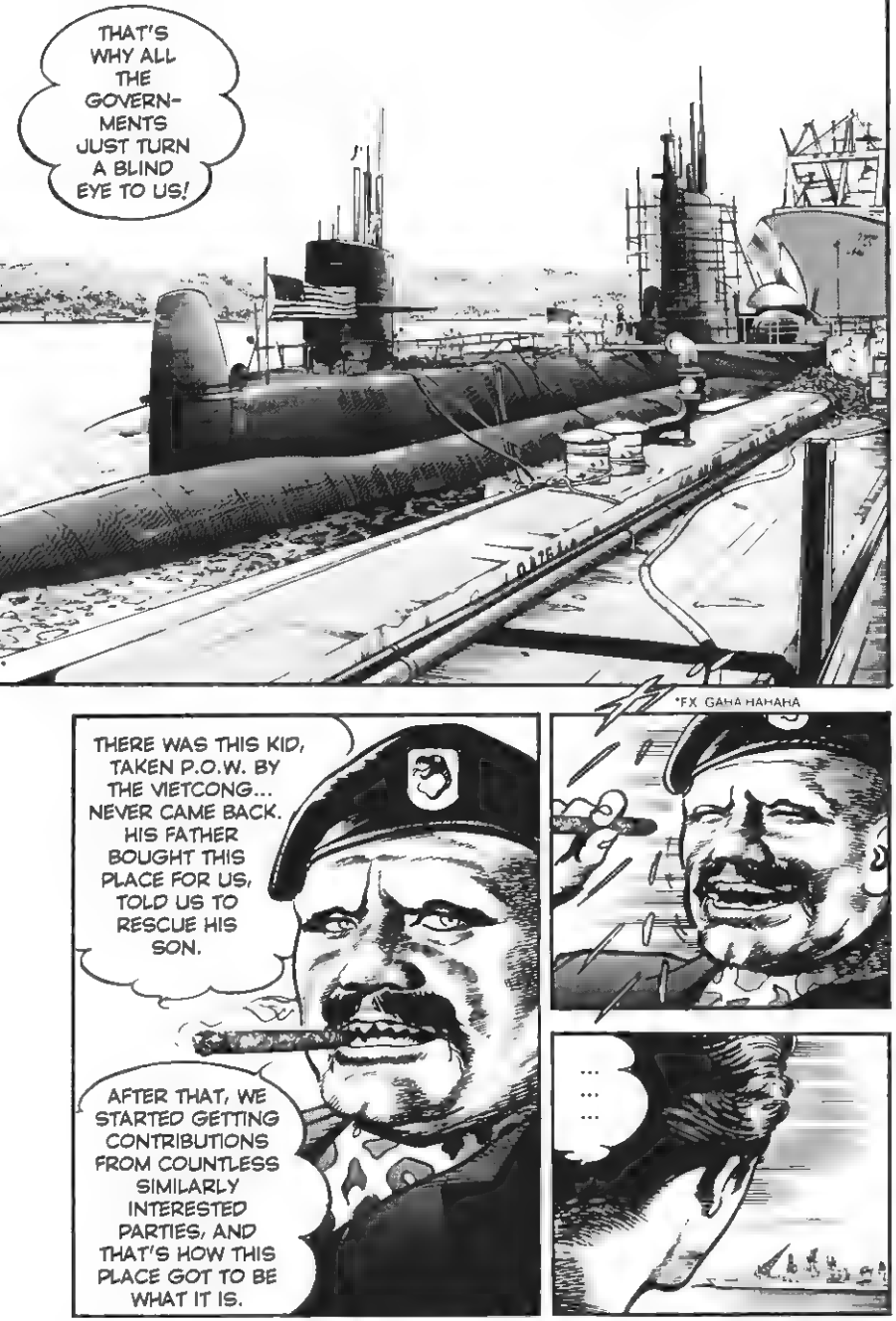
.....
.....

THEY CAN'T LIVE IN *REGULAR* PLACES. THEY'RE SICK.
THAT'S WHY THEY'VE ALL SWORN AN OATH OF LOYALTY TO EACH OTHER. THEY CAN'T GO ON LIVING OUTSIDE A PLACE LIKE THIS.

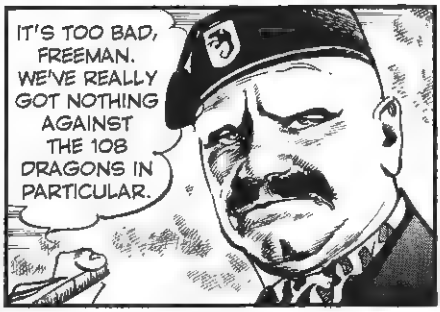


THIS IS WHERE WE TREAT OUR AILING. IT'S A HOSPITAL! AN INTENSIVE CARE UNIT!




THAT'S WHY ALL THE GOVERN-MENTS JUST TURN A BLIND EYE TO US!
*FX GAHA HAHAHA
THERE WAS THIS KID, TAKEN P.O.W. BY THE VIETCONG... NEVER CAME BACK. HIS FATHER BOUGHT THIS PLACE FOR US, TOLD US TO RESCUE HIS SON.
AFTER THAT, WE STARTED GETTING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM COUNTLESS SIMILARLY INTERESTED PARTIES, AND THAT'S HOW THIS PLACE GOT TO BE WHAT IT IS.
...
...
...

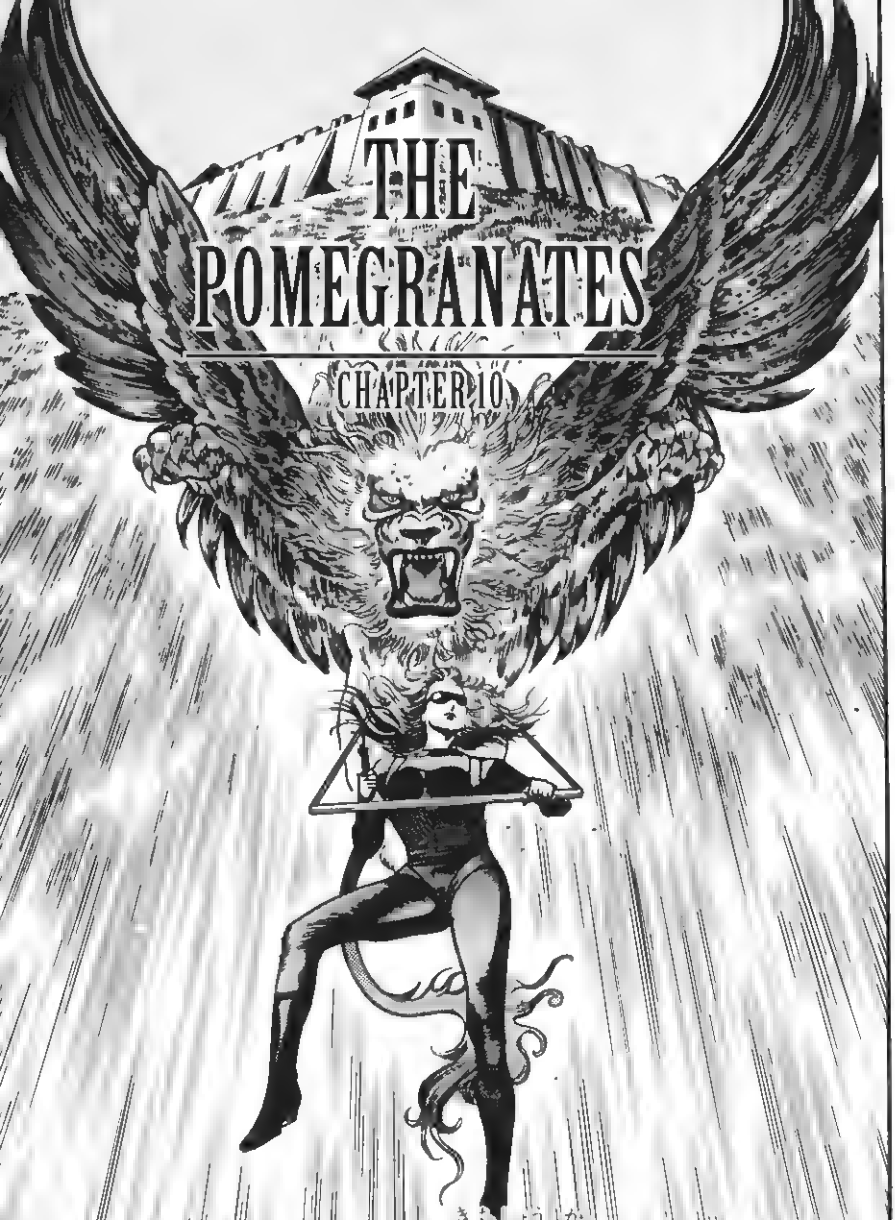
*FX: HRR MMM RMM



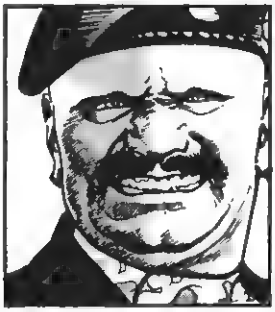
...BUT OBVIOUSLY WE CAN'T JUST GO TO WAR AGAINST ORDINARY COUNTRIES! SO WE TAKE ON ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE 108 DRAGONS, THE WONG FAMILY, THE MAFIA...
BUT IMAGINARY OPPONENTS WON'T DO IF YOU'RE A RAMBO. YOU NEED SOMEONE *REAL* TO FIGHT AGAINST...

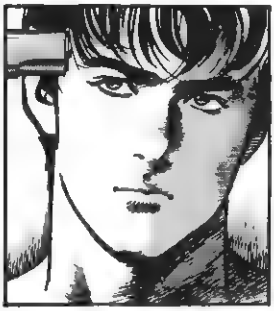
WE'RE THE ONES WHO CRUSHED THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE CONNECTION AND THE TURKISH DRUG SYNDICATES!
OUR ONLY RECOURSE IS TO FIGHT AGAINST UNDERWORLD OPPONENTS. PLEASE FORGIVE ME, FREEMAN.
.....
BUT I DIDN'T FIGURE YOU TO JUST SIT ON YOUR HANDS AND LET YOURSELF GET CAUGHT SO EASILY, FREEMAN...
YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING UP YOUR SLEEVE, DON'T YOU?
WHILE YOU WERE STRUGGLING AGAINST ME, MY SISTER WENT TO K.O.'S HEADQUARTERS AND SHOULD HAVE RESCUED WO-CI AND TAKEN YOUR BOSS HOSTAGE BY NOW.

*FX GAHAHAHAHA
WELL, THEN! IT'S TIME FOR A HOSTAGE TRADE!!
.....
.....
THAT'S JUST LIKE FREEMAN OF THE 108 DRAGONS!

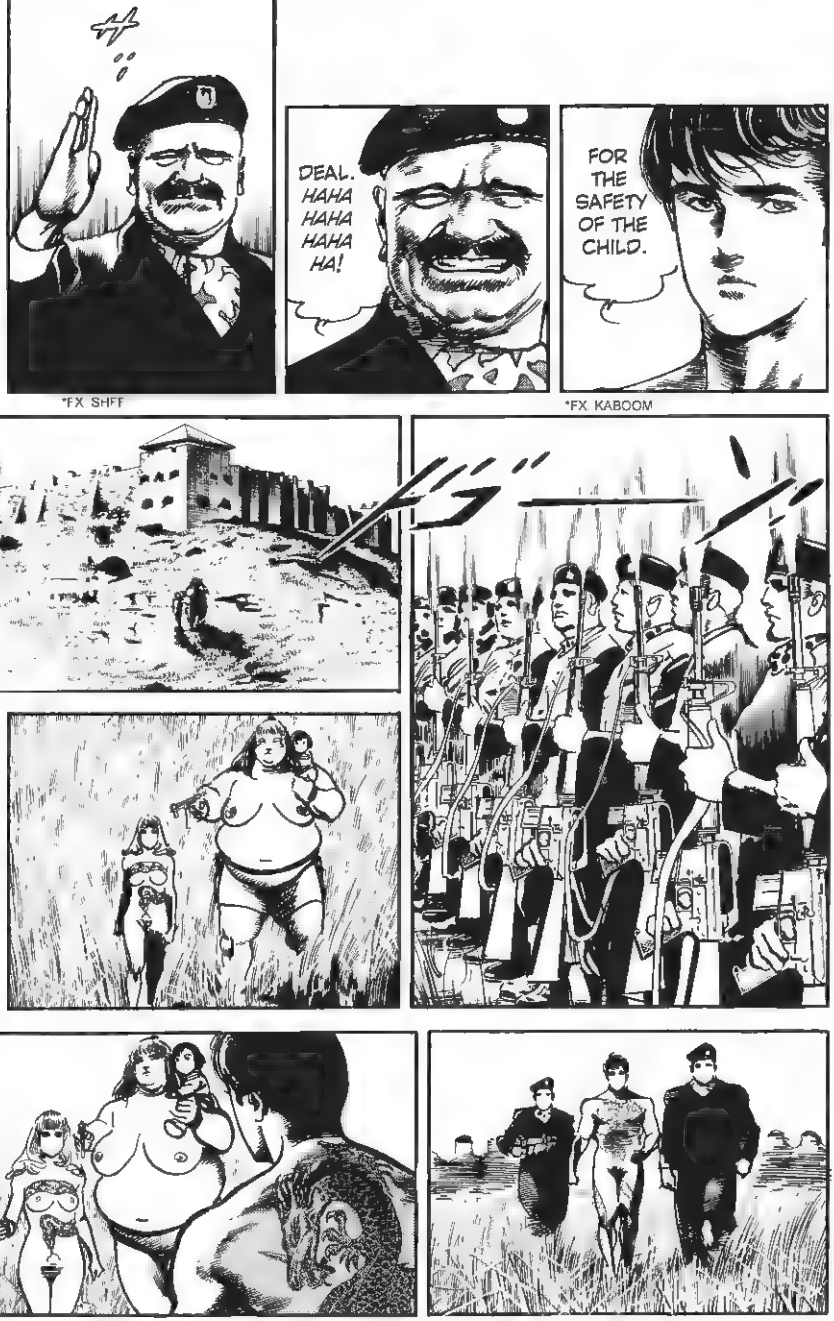


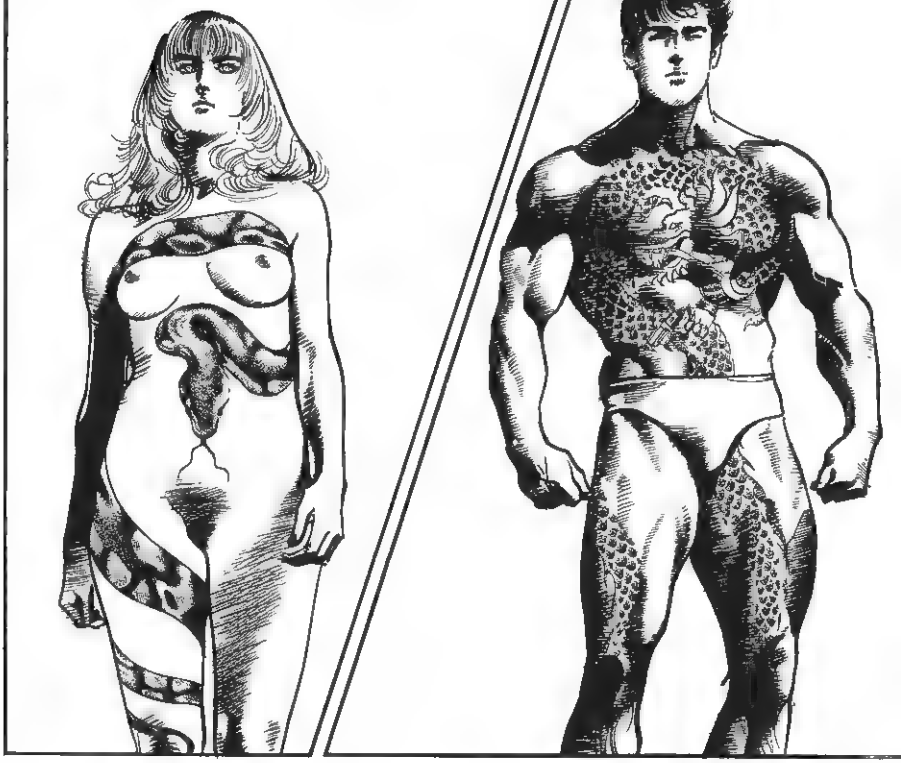
第11話　吉祥果(10)



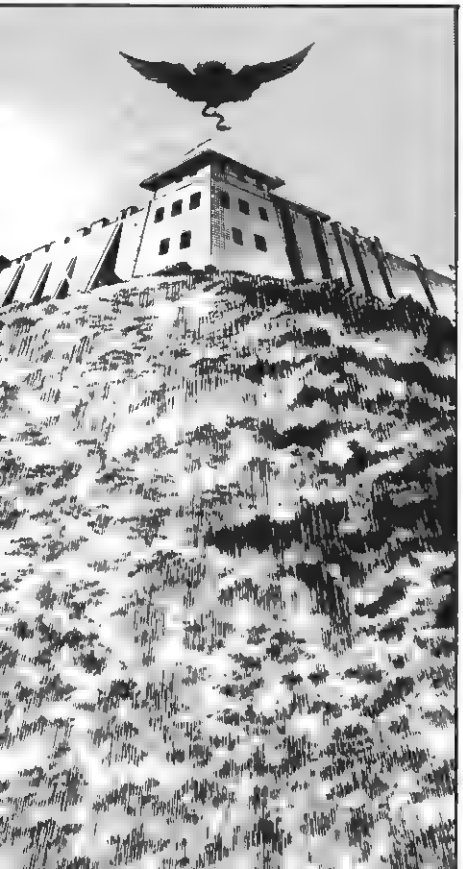


PROMISE ME THERE'LL BE NO HOSTILITIES FOR SIX HOURS AFTER THE TRADE...
ALL RIGHT, LET'S START THE PRISONER EXCHANGE.


DEAL. HAHA HAHA HAHA HA!
FOR THE SAFETY OF THE CHILD.
*FX SHFF
*FX KABOOM

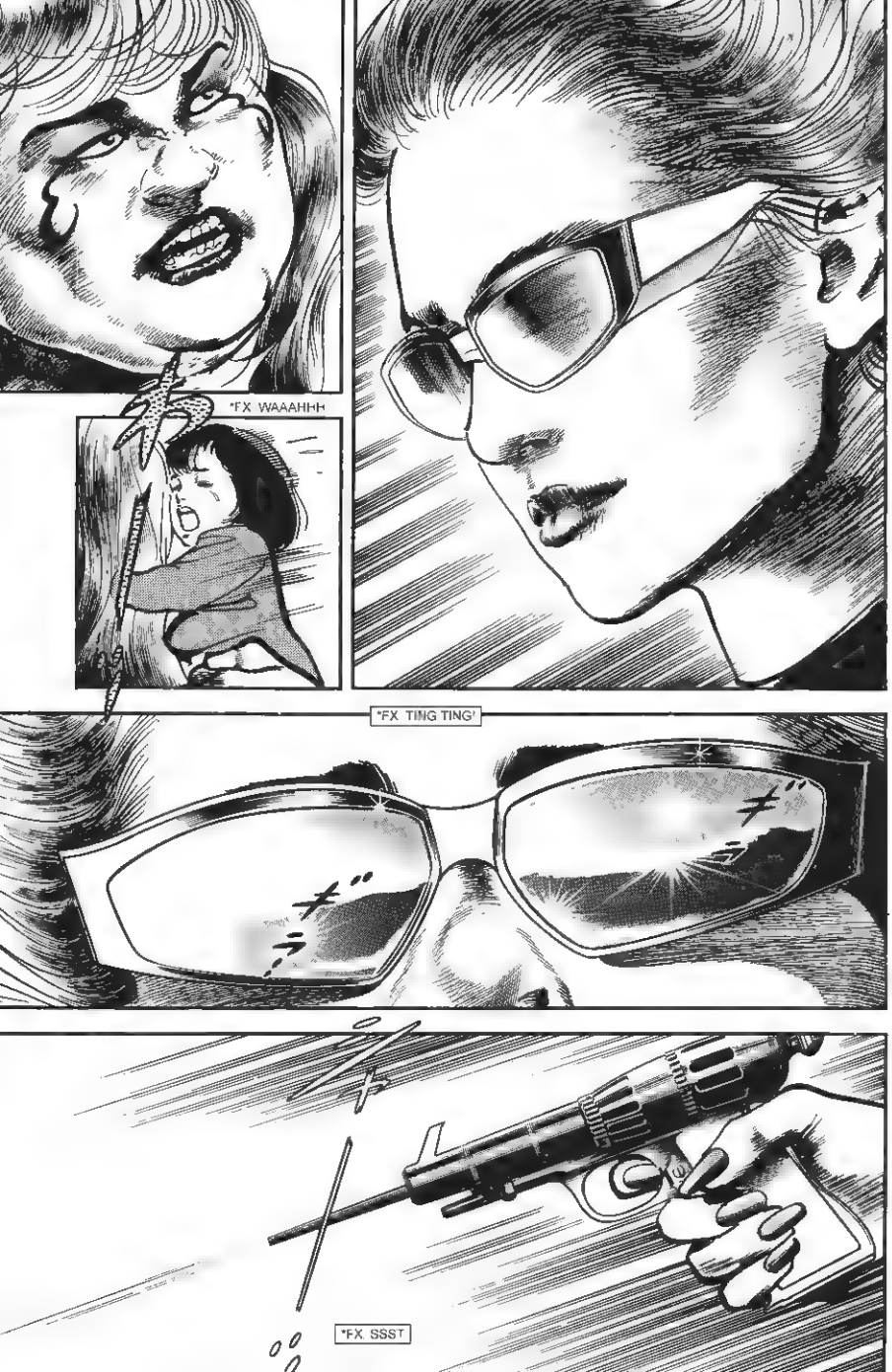


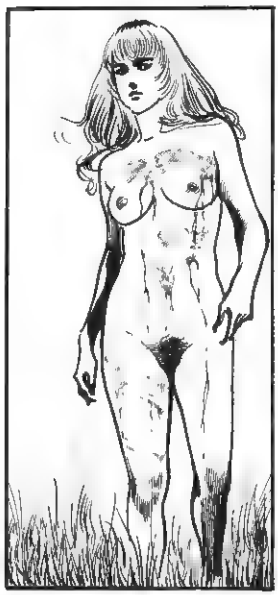
ATTENTION!!

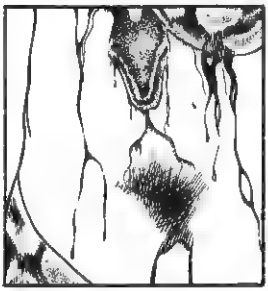


*FX SHFF

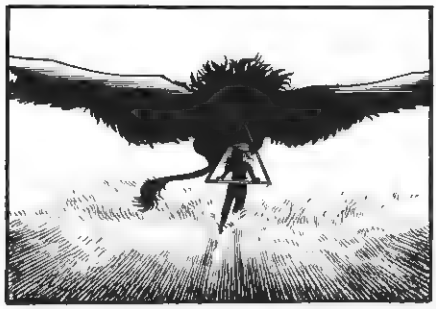
*FX HUH?


*FX WAAAHHH
*FX TING TING!
*FX SSST





*FX SSP.T



*FX AAH

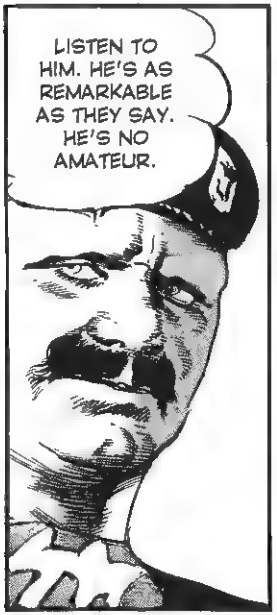
*FX ZZZP

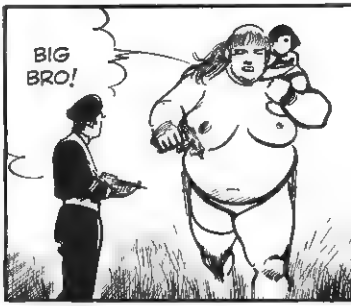
...QUEEN OF THE KIDNAPPERS!

THAT WOMAN'S JOB IS TO SHOOT MUPPETS EVERY DAY IN CONSPICUOUS PLACES. *HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!*
I'M NINA HEAVEN ...

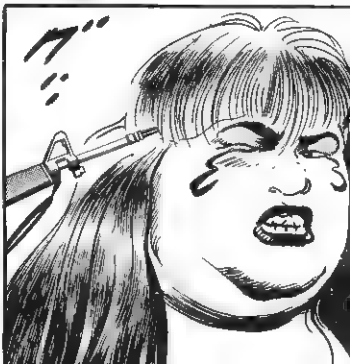
*FX SHKK
SAD BUT TRUE, FREE-MAN.
*FX OHHH'
GO AHEAD AND SHOOT HER, BAI YA SHAN. I COULDN'T GIVE A DAMN.
*FX HRRK
<SORRY, BIG BRO!>
IT'S OKAY.

*FX SHUDDER SHUDDER!





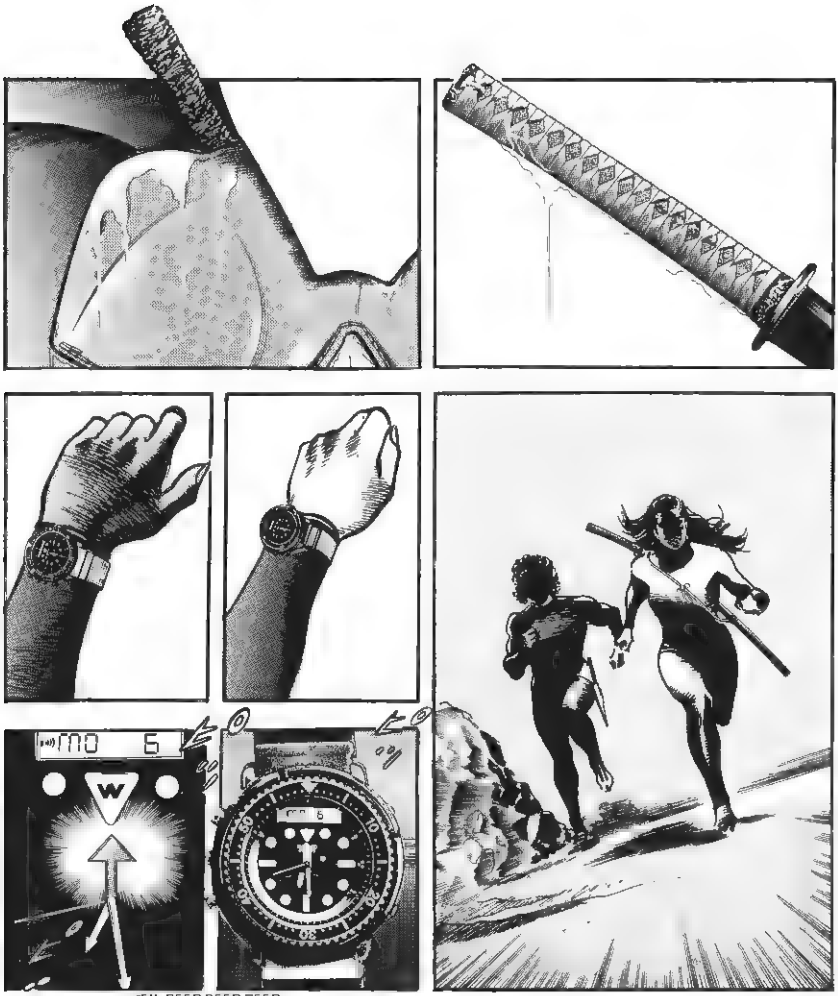
*FX. CHKK



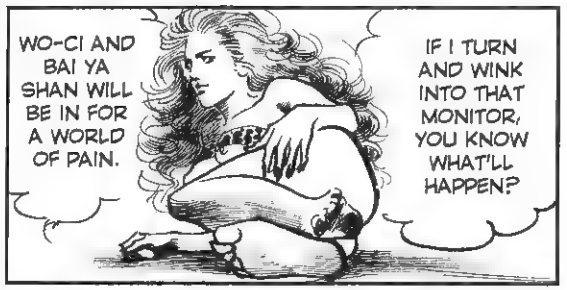
COMPOSITE PHOTOS OF YOU AND I MAKING LOVE, DONE ON COMPUTER. HAHAHAHA!
NOW LET'S DO IT ALL FOR REAL!

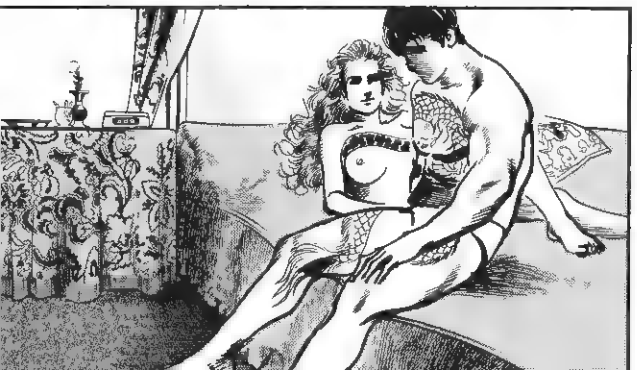
THE
POMEGRANATES
CHAPTER II
吉祥果川
きちじょうか

*FX: FWAASSHH FWASH

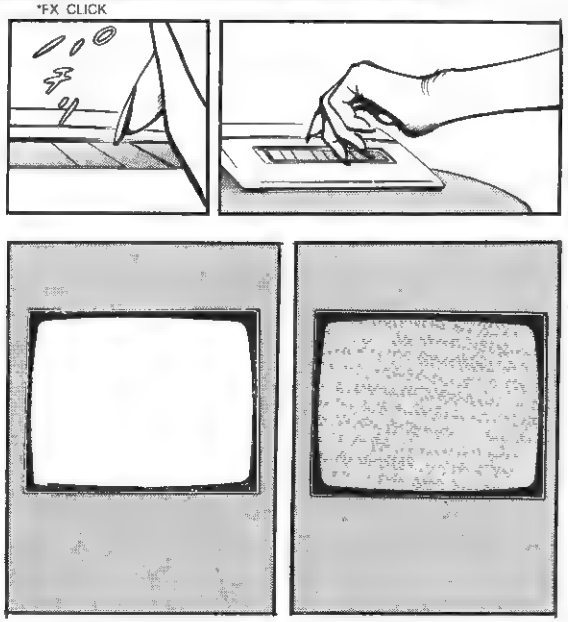

*FX BEEP BEEP BEEP

SO COME ON OVER HERE.

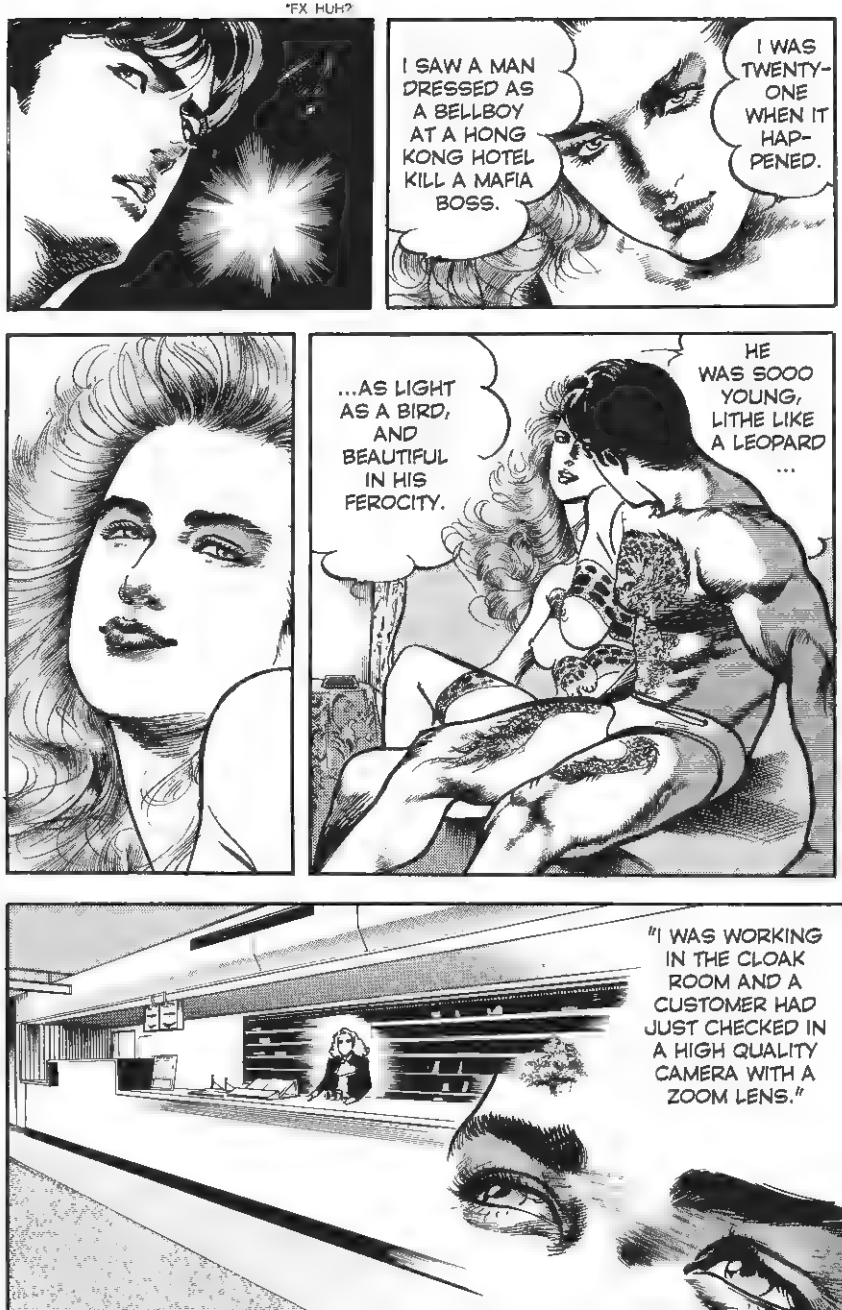

WO-CI AND BAI YA SHAN WILL BE IN FOR A WORLD OF PAIN.
IF I TURN AND WINK INTO THAT MONITOR, YOU KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN?



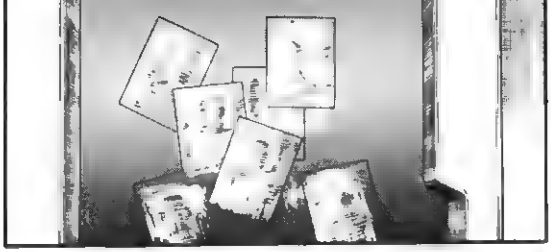
*FX CLICK



COME OVER HERE. COME HERE OR ELSE...

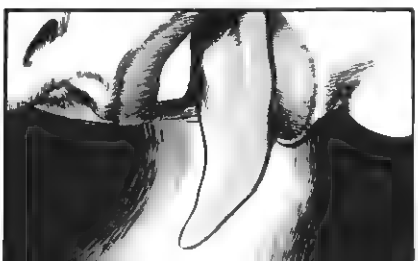

*FX HUH?
I SAW A MAN DRESSED AS A BELLBOY AT A HONG KONG HOTEL KILL A MAFIA BOSS.
I WAS TWENTY-ONE WHEN IT HAP-PENED.
...AS LIGHT AS A BIRD, AND BEAUTIFUL IN HIS FEROCITY.
HE WAS SOOO YOUNG, LITHE LIKE A LEOPARD ...
"I WAS WORKING IN THE CLOAK ROOM AND A CUSTOMER HAD JUST CHECKED IN A HIGH QUALITY CAMERA WITH A ZOOM LENS."

"I CLICKED AWAY LIKE I WAS IN A TRANCE"



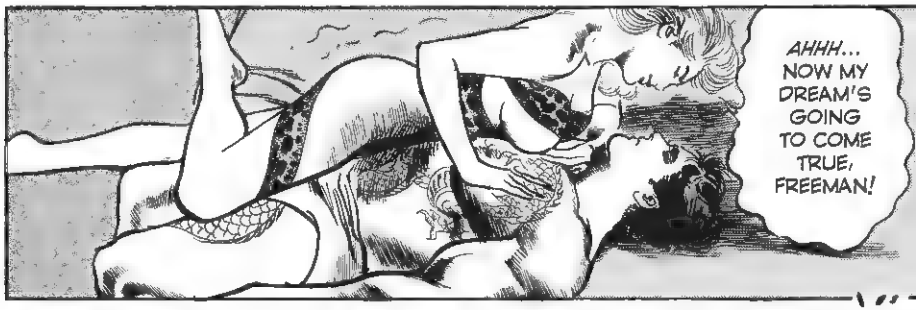
"I NEVER SAID A WORD TO THE POLICE."

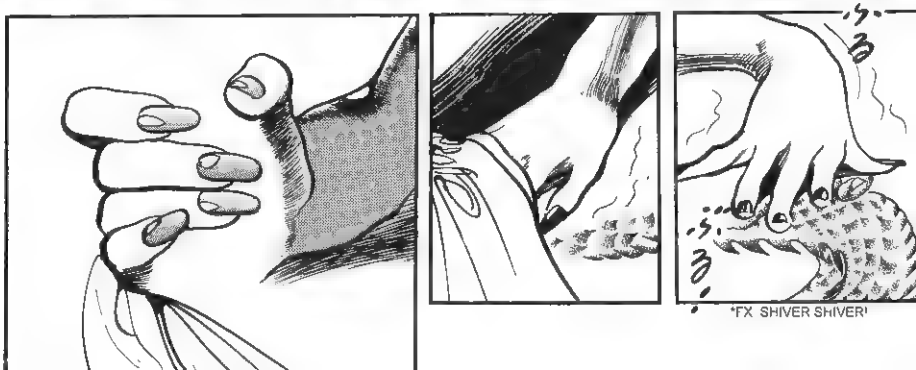
AHHHH!

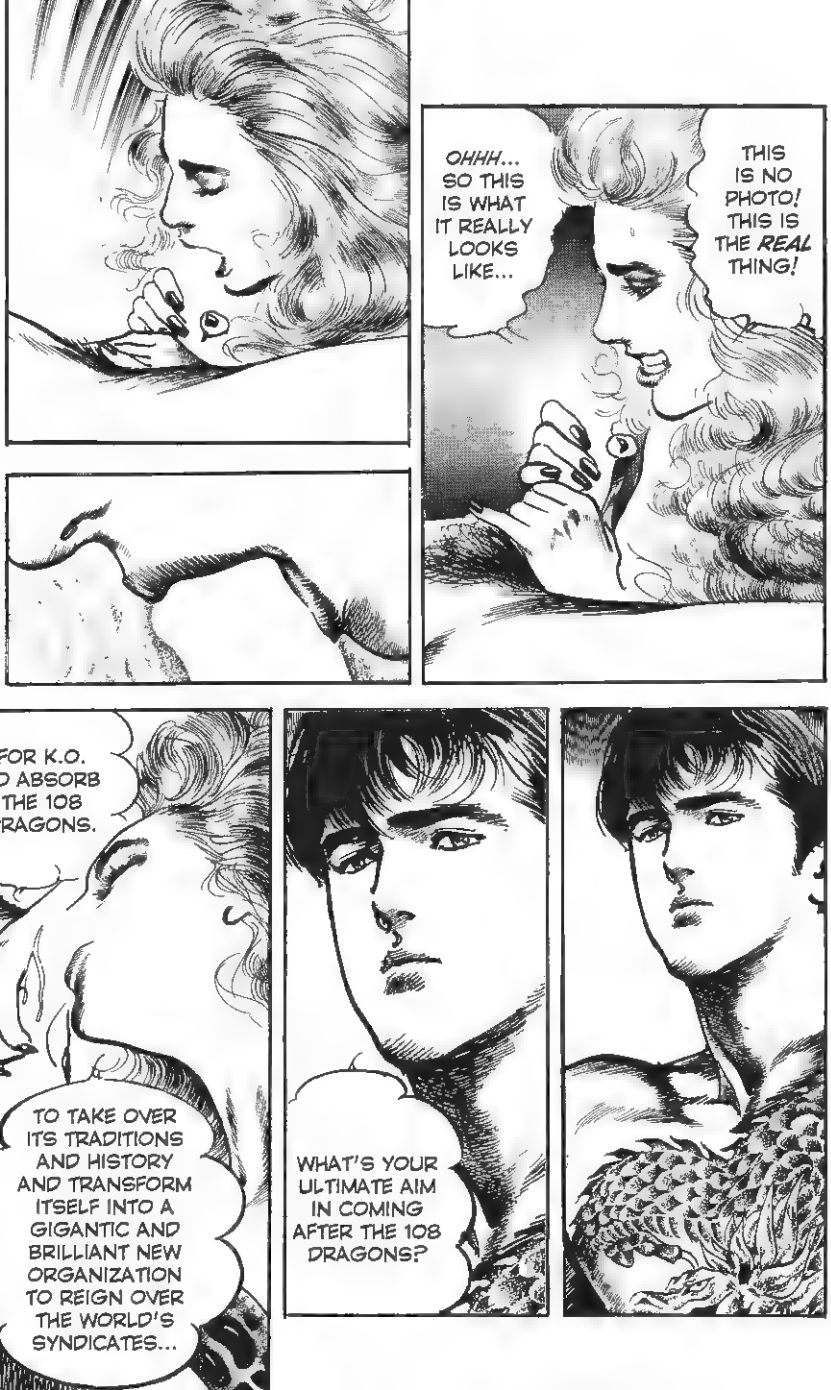


"EVER SINCE THAT DAY, I'VE BEEN YOUR SLAVE!"

"I'VE SLEPT WITH AS MANY MEN AS THERE ARE STARS IN THE SKY, BUT NOT ONE OF THEM WAS EVER ABLE TO SATISY ME!"
"I GAVE MY VIRGINITY TO YOU, FREEMAN... NIGHT AFTER NIGHT I WOULD LOOK AT YOUR PICTURES AND FINGER MYSELF!"
"ONLY MASTUR-BATING DID IT FOR ME..."
"MASTUR-BATING WITH YOU!"


AHHH... NOW MY DREAM'S GOING TO COME TRUE, FREEMAN!


*FX SHIVER SHIVER!


OHHH... SO THIS IS WHAT IT REALLY LOOKS LIKE...
THIS IS NO PHOTO! THIS IS THE *REAL* THING!
FOR K.O. TO ABSORB THE 108 DRAGONS.
TO TAKE OVER ITS TRADITIONS AND HISTORY AND TRANSFORM ITSELF INTO A GIGANTIC AND BRILLIANT NEW ORGANIZATION TO REIGN OVER THE WORLD'S SYNDICATES...
WHAT'S YOUR ULTIMATE AIM IN COMING AFTER THE 108 DRAGONS?

*FX HRR
...AND I WANT YOU TO BE ITS LEADER! BUT FOR THAT TO HAPPEN, MY PEOPLE WILL NEED TO BE CONVINCED.
FOR EVERYONE TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOU AS THE MIGHTIEST IN THE WORLD, YOU'LL HAVE TO ENDURE NUMEROUS TESTS AND FIGHT AGAINST MY MEN!
FX WHJD
WHY AREN'T YOU GETTING HARD?!
YOU LIE!! MEN LIVE BY INSTINCTS AND REFLEXES, LIKE ANIMALS!! THEIR DICKS GET HARD WITHOUT THEIR WILL HAVING ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!!
WITHOUT THE MIND TO FOLLOW IT, THE BLOOD WON'T FLOW DON'T THERE.

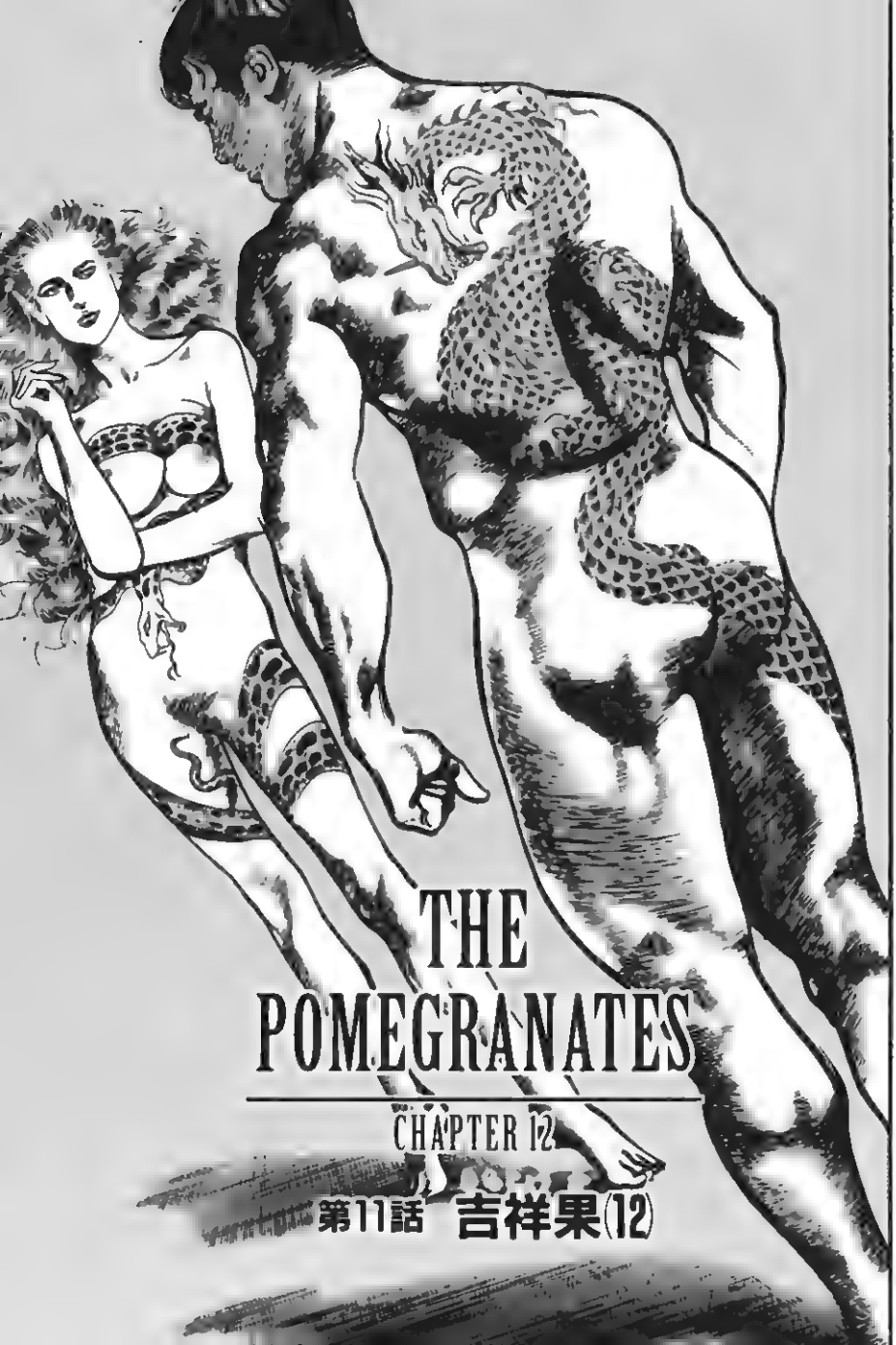
OH, REALLY?
I'VE NEVER BEDDED A SINGLE MAN THAT COULDN'T GET A HARD-ON WITH ME!!
SOME OF THEM CAME BEFORE THEY EVEN PUT IT IN ME! NOT ONE OF THEM LASTED MORE THAN TEN MINUTES!!
ふるふる!
あ!!
*FX AHH!
ビクッ!
*FX PKK
*FX SHUDDER SHUDDER

*FX SHUKK

*FX SLISSHH

SECURE ONE OF THE HELI-COPTERS ...
YES?
BUG-NUG.
YES, MA'AM!
IF I'M NOT BACK IN AN HOUR, LAUNCH AN ATTACK!
*FX SMILE
UNDER-STOOD, MISTRESS HU QING LAN.
AND SABOTAGE THE CONTROLS ON THE OTHER AIRCRAFT.

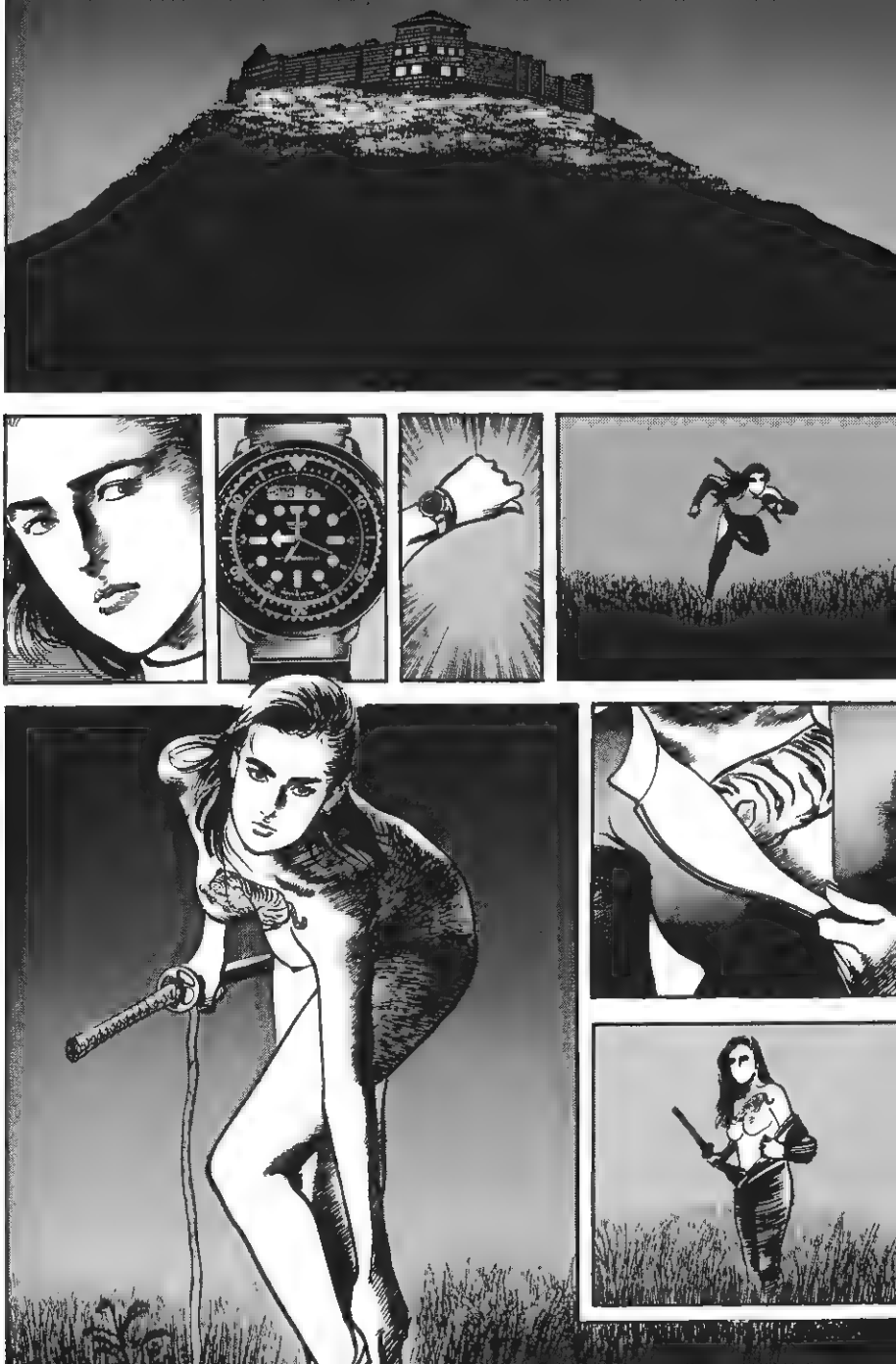
*FX SLRP SLRP SLRP SLRP
WHY AREN'T YOU GETTING A HARD-ON?!!
TELL ME WHY ?!!
*FX MM MM MM MM MM
YOU'LL HAVE TO MASTURBATE WHILE WATCHING ME.

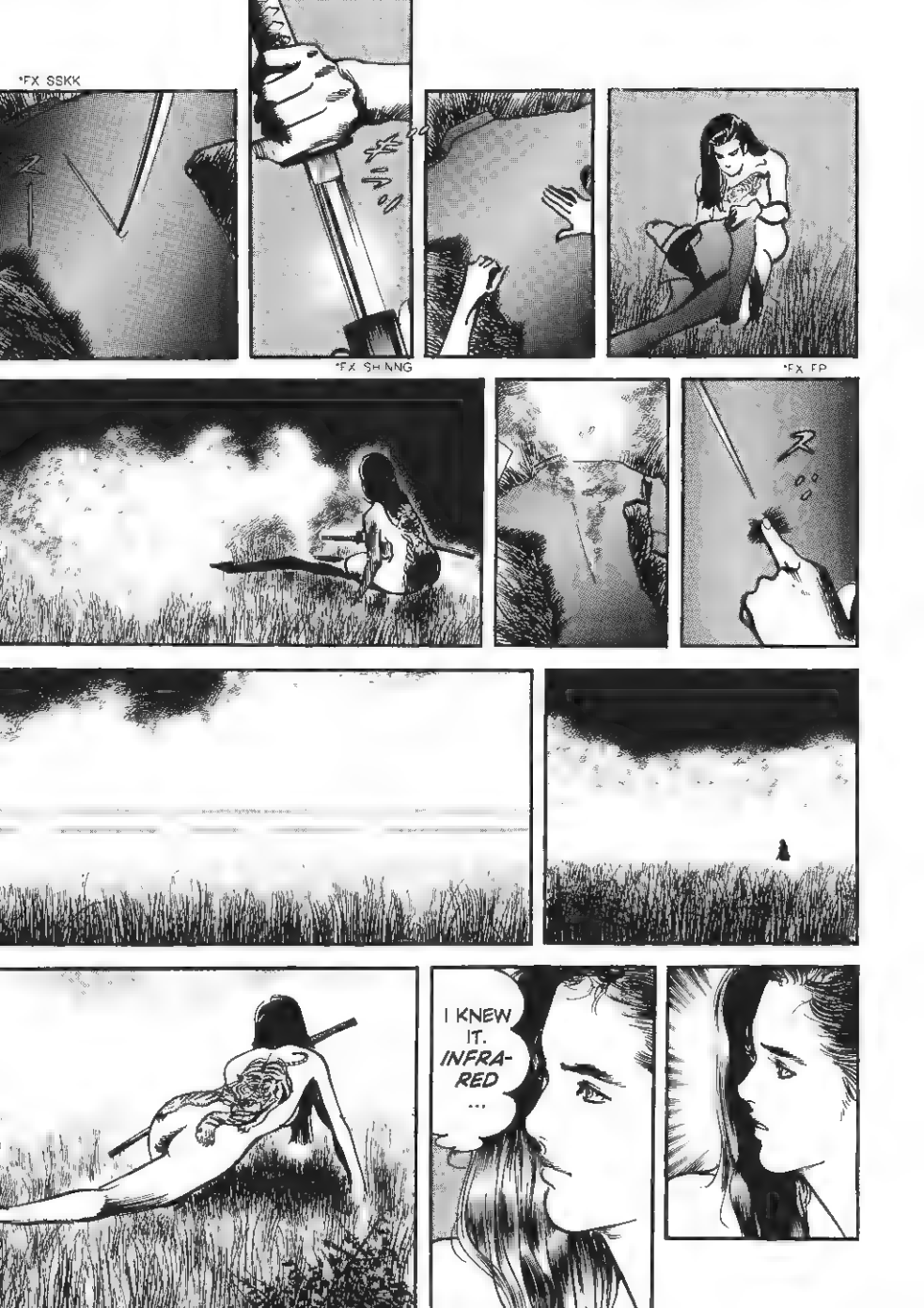


THE POMEGRANATES

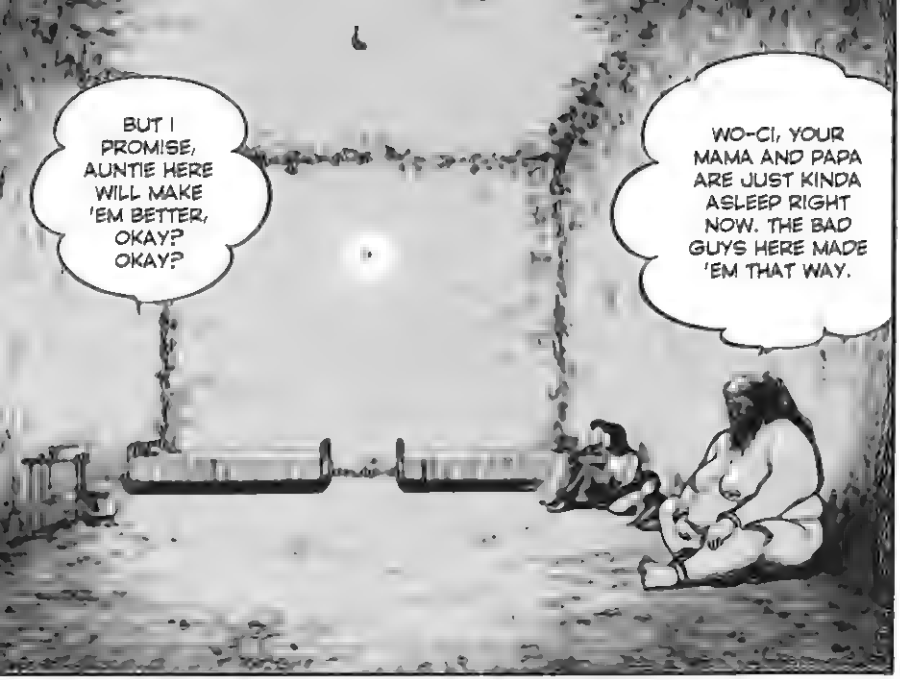
CHAPTER 12

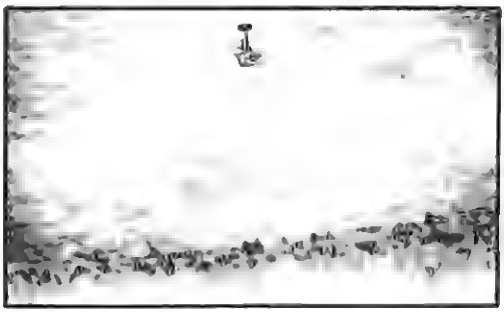
第11話 吉祥果(12)

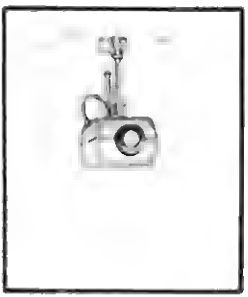



*FX SSKK
*FX SHNNG
*FX FP
I KNEW IT. INFRA-RED ...

*FX SNIFF SNIFF
I'LL KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF 'EM!!
THERE'S *NO WAY* I'M LETTIN' THEM GET AWAY WITH THIS!!
<PAPA!!>
<SAY SOME-THING! PLEASE!!>
<MAMA-AA!>
<SAY SOME-THING! PLEASE!!>


BUT I PROMISE, AUNTIE HERE WILL MAKE 'EM BETTER, OKAY? OKAY?
WO-CI, YOUR MAMA AND PAPA ARE JUST KINDA ASLEEP RIGHT NOW. THE BAD GUYS HERE MADE 'EM THAT WAY.





WHAT?
HEY, WO-CI, STOP CRYING... I'LL SHOW YOU SOMETHING FUNNY!
*FX CLANK CLANK
*FX SHEE
*FX HRRGGHH
*FX BLEHH!

AAH!!
*FX SKKAASHH
*FX WHJP
*FX GRIN
ニヤリ
*FX AAH
*FX FFSSSS

*FX SLAM
*FX WHAAM!
*FX THWUMP
*FX THWUMP

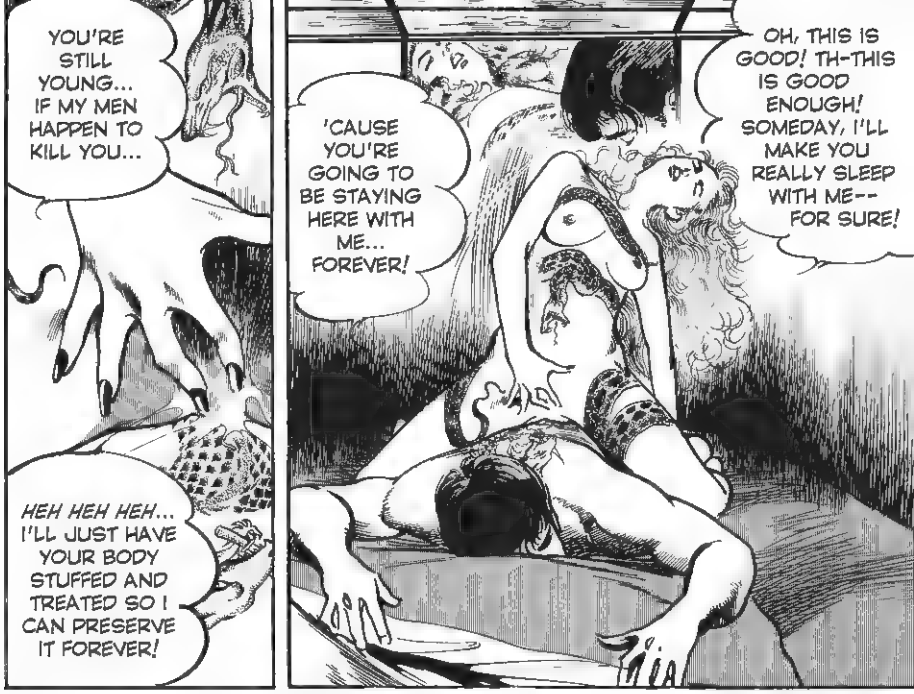
A-HA HA HA HA HA HA!
*FX HMFF
<NOW WATCH THIS, WO-CI!>
*FX THUKK
*FX KRRNNNK
GRRAAAHH!!

*FX CHANKK
*FX PLOP
スーン
WOW-WW ...!
A-HAHAHAHA! NEVER UNDER-ESTIMATE BAI YA SHAN!

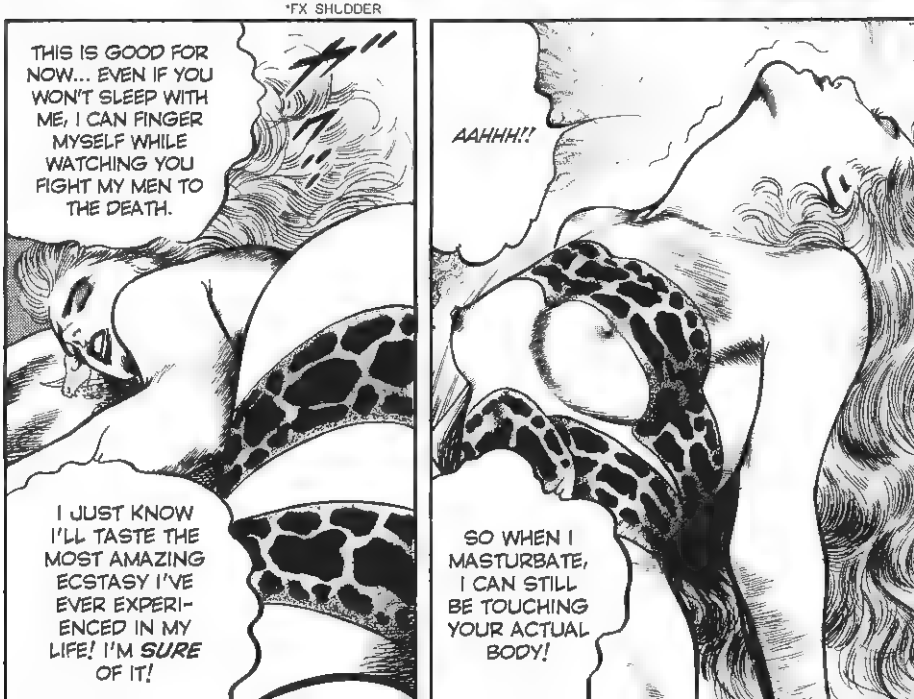
*FX KRRNNKK
HNNGAAHH!!
*FX HRRK
*FX TRRR
ぶるぶる
ぶるぶる
*FX TRRR!
HRRAAAHH!!

HRRK HRRK
*FX TRRR TRRR TRRR TRRR TRRR

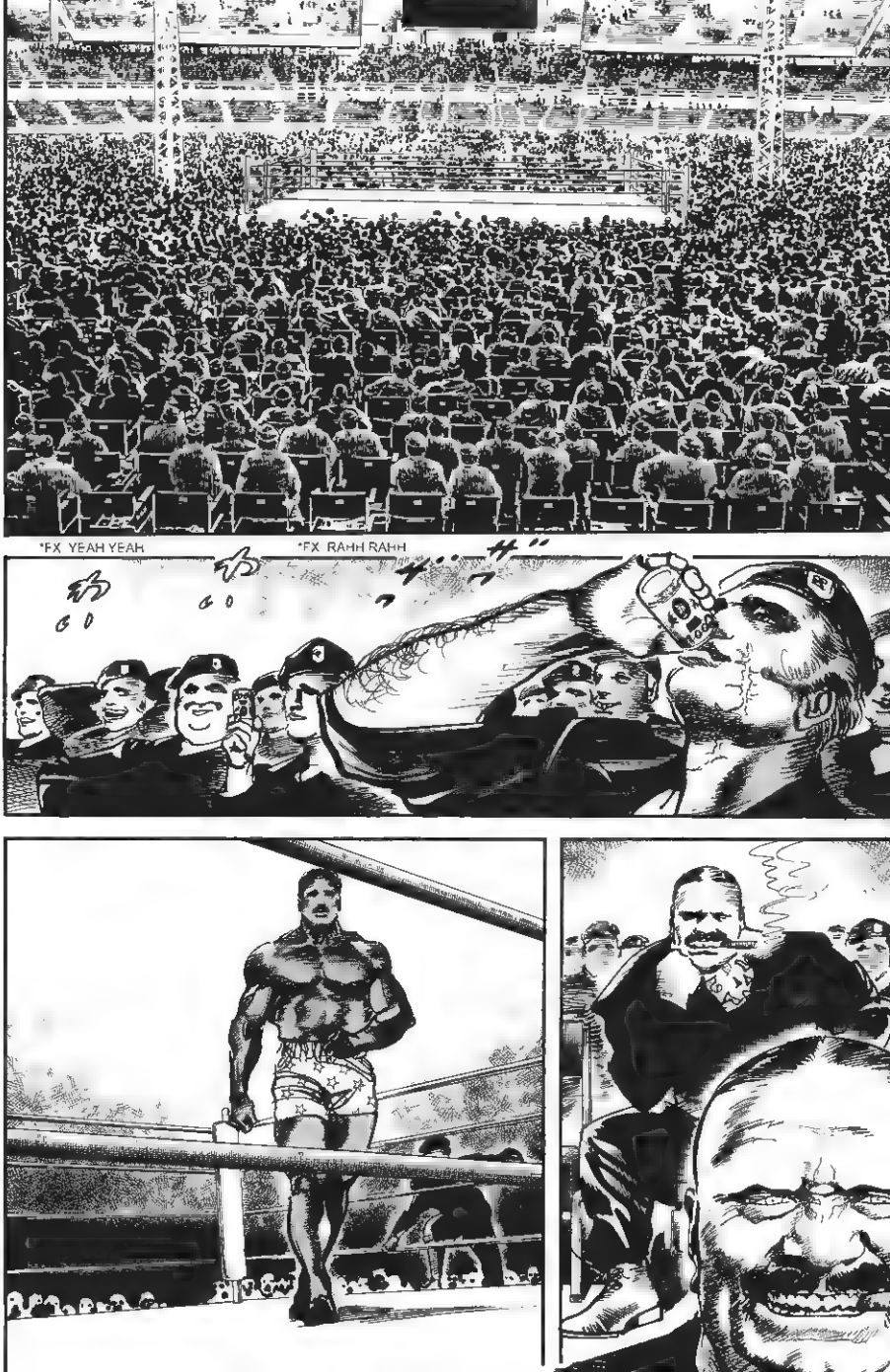
*FX CHNNK
*FX HAHH HAHH HAHH HAHH
GRRAAHH!!
*FX GRIN
ニヤリ
*FX THOP
WO-CI, DON'T LEAVE THIS ROOM!
チョコン


YOU'RE STILL YOUNG... IF MY MEN HAPPEN TO KILL YOU...
HEH HEH HEH... I'LL JUST HAVE YOUR BODY STUFFED AND TREATED SO I CAN PRESERVE IT FOREVER!
'CAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO BE STAYING HERE WITH ME... FOREVER!
OH, THIS IS GOOD! TH-THIS IS GOOD ENOUGH! SOMEDAY, I'LL MAKE YOU REALLY SLEEP WITH ME-- FOR SURE!

*FX SHUDDER


THIS IS GOOD FOR NOW... EVEN IF YOU WON'T SLEEP WITH ME, I CAN FINGER MYSELF WHILE WATCHING YOU FIGHT MY MEN TO THE DEATH.
I JUST KNOW I'LL TASTE THE MOST AMAZING ECSTASY I'VE EVER EXPERIENCED IN MY LIFE! I'M SURE OF IT!
AAHHH!!
SO WHEN I MASTURBATE, I CAN STILL BE TOUCHING YOUR ACTUAL BODY!

BATTLE IS THE ONLY THING THAT GIVES THEM PLEASURE OR SATISFACTION! I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THEY'RE ALL JUST MORE PATHETIC VICTIMS OF THE VIETNAM WAR.
MOST OF MY MEN ARE SEXUAL PERVERTS ...
EVERYONE IS READY AND WAITING! ALL THE PREPARATIONS ARE IN PLACE!
WHAT IS IT?
FX KNOCK KNOCK
*FX GRIN
MY MEN ARE GOING TO CHALLENGE YOU IN COMBAT NOW!
UNDERSTOOD. WE'LL BE RIGHT THERE.


*FX YEAH YEAH
*FX RAHH RAHH

*FX: RRAAAAHHH!!
*FX: CLAP CLAP CLAP
I'M GONNA FUCKING KILL FREEMAN!! SORRY TO DISAPPOINT ALL YOU GUYS NEXT IN LINE!!
END VOLUME 4

小池一夫・作
池上遼一・画

CRYING FREEMAN

Kazuo Koike / Ryoichi Ikegami

クライングフリーマン

Cult leader Naiji Kumaga is poised for a hostile take-over of Japan. He has the tools—1000 submachine-guns in a land with few firearms—but needs expert hands to wield them, and the assassins of the 108 Dragons definitely have what it takes. Kumaga's plan: capture the Dragons' leader, Crying Freeman, and replace him with a trained double. Snatching the world's deadliest killer is a tall order, but maybe not too tall for the merciless giant, Tohgoku Oshu!

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